

Vue

WEEKLY

THE
END
IS
NEAR.



CHANNEL

WIRED

with **ELISE CAMPBELL**

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New Year --
We'll see
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on Monday
watch for
WILD
WIRED
THEATRE
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CHANNEL

Top ten ways to start a revolution

By DALE LADOUCEUR

About a month ago, some 10,000 young Parisian students from Grades Four to Ten marched on the French legislature to protest their government's decision to reduce the education budget. The closest Edmontonians have ever come to mounting this kind of serious protest against government policy was during the crisis over health and hospital cuts, when 2000 people gathered as one in opposition to the Klein government's drastic, deadly and impulsive slash-and-burn program of cuts.

Before you read my list, you may want to consider some general preparatory actions.

Vote. If you believe there's no one good to vote for, then either pick the lesser of the "evils" or run for council yourself.

Read. Read it all: the alternative print media from *Adbusters* to *Vue Weekly*, as well as the dailies. If you haven't gotten into the habit of reading the paper, or consider it too daunting or time-consuming a task, then scan the headlines. Once a headline catches your eye, read the first couple of paragraphs, then decide to continue or move on. Often the smallest articles are the most important; for example, a tiny, two-inch story in the *Edmonton Journal* a few years ago announced that the Antarctic Larson B ice shelf had crumbled, leaving a chunk of Iceland to float towards the Pacific.

Act. If you think someone seems to need help, chances are you're right. Television has done much to isolate us from each other, which in turn makes us easier to control. But isolation only breeds uncertainty and suspicion. Someone who seems to be in trouble probably doesn't have an M16 waiting for you. Use caution of course, but you're more likely to get a lot out of the experience of reaching out to your fellow man.

Now, for the advanced list.

1. Tell your friends and family

that brands are for cattle. Ask strangers how much Nike (or whatever multinational is behind the clothes they're wearing) is paying them to advertise. Suggest sending an invoice for a large sum of money, (a day's wages times the number of days they've worn the brand name) and request payment in money order or cashier's cheque. If you can, send it COD.

2. Tape an artist's oil stick to a metal bracket, attach it to an eight- or ten-foot-long wooden dowel and "express your feelings" about an offensive billboard in your neighbourhood. For example, add bloody noses to the people in the ad for Captain Morgan's rum. It's not permanent, so it's not defacing property. Writing a chalk message on the sidewalk in front of your local bank is also fun.

3. Start a "Critical Mass" movement by getting your friends, neighbours, family to ride bicycles on the first of every month. After starting in San Francisco in 1992 with 45 cyclists, this idea has now spread to over 100 North American cities, with thousands of people participating in each city. Critical Mass seeks to liberate the city from auto-cracy (rule by car). It works on the principal of organized coincidence; the event "materializes" each month despite the absence of organizers. If you don't own a bike, walk and encourage others to do so as well.

4. Download the "Conrad Black's Empire Crumbles" campaign from the *Adbusters* web site (www.adbusters.org) and let him know you don't appreciate monopolies.

5. Make stickers by hand or on your computer that say "CAUTION: THIS MAY BE GENETICALLY ALTERED," then go to your local big-chain supermarket and casually stick them on as many fruits and vegetables as you can. If you get caught, make a formal complaint that genetically altered foods are being sold to the public without the customers' awareness or input. These products have the potential, among other haz-



ards, to create new food allergies.

6. Mail in those pesky business reply cards, either blank or with something written over the name/address section letting their recipient know how you feel—e.g., "No subscription until you stop tobacco advertisements." They will get the message and have to foot the bill to boot.

7. One of the most devious things on the Internet is the "Cookie." Most web browsers are designed to receive small snippets of info sent by the server of the web you are visiting. When you revisit that site, the web site can build a profile of your browsing habits and tailor the ad content to you—a subtle and insidious marketing device. If you wish to jam these cookies, download this program: Cookie Cutter (for Mac users) at ftp://ftp.amug.org/pub/amug/bbs-in-a-box/files/internet/web-things/cookie-cutter-1.0.sit.hqx; or do it manually. In Windows it will be called cookies.txt, on Mac, MagicCookie. (Thanks again to Advertisers for the info.)

8. Meet your neighbours.

9. In July of 1996, Errol E. Povah was arrested and charged with mischief under \$5,000 for throwing a couple of paint-balls at a tobacco "killboard." Before being sentenced in a Vancouver provincial court, he read a statement explaining his motives, which included a disgust with tobacco companies' youth-targeted advertising. Minutes after Povah finished his speech, the judge found him guilty as charged. The sentence: an absolute discharge. Many now accurately view both the verdict and the sentence as a license

Revolution
continues on page 4

commentary

Top five apologies of 1998

By YURI WUENSCH

1. **Bill Clinton**—Obviously number one. Clinton doesn't necessarily win because of quality, but quantity. I've never heard anyone apologize so often and sound so remorseless every single time. John F. Kennedy was as bad as, if not worse than, Clinton when it comes to marital fidelity, but was arguably the most popular president ever. They (whoever "they" are) shot Kennedy, so what does 1998 have in store for Clinton?

2. **Prime Minister Chrétien**—There's an interesting line between regretting something and actually apologizing for it. Clinton and Chrétien are veritable masters at it. The APEC conference, which saw protesters pepper-sprayed, was "regrettable," but no one will take responsibility for it. Was it Chrétien's idea? Did the RCMP act of their own volition? Does it really matter? People seem less concerned with truth than they do with catching someone in a lie. "A-ha!" we cry once our beliefs are validated. The APEC conference is to

news

it worked for the Oilers during the '80s, right?

4. **Jeff Kugel**—

Pro athletes' occasional indulgences in the herb pale in comparison to Jeff Kugel's apparent addiction to PCP. His primordial, testosterone-induced breakout during a game saw him banned from the OHL. No real loss, as we wasn't an especially good player to begin with. Still, that level of intention



sity might serve him well in a future career—perhaps as a pro wrestler or used car salesman.

5. **Christian Slater**—Little Nicholson was arrested in '97 for going on a drunken, cocaine-crazed rampage and then beating up girls. Amazing how things go from being out of vogue one year to being all the rage the next, as Slater does pretty much the same thing in his new film *Very Bad Things*. A deplorable film, and truly one of 1998's guilty pleasures. Thank you Christian—your apology is accepted.

Yuri Wuensch is a regular writer for Vue Weekly.

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Vuefinder

**1999 down, 1 to go!**

The first and last issue of the year is the ideal time to look back at the year that was—and to look forward, not only to the year ahead but to that monumental date in one year's time: December 31, 1999, the last day of the millennium. *Vue Weekly's* contributors and staffers have all come up with lists of the best and worst of 1998, and we've included their ugly mugs—er, lovely head shots—for your viewing pleasure. We're also debuting a new column, *Millennium Countdown* by *Vue* editor-in-chief David Gobeil Taylor—he promises to get to the bottom of this Y2K bug thing.

Cover Illustration by James Grasdal

A letter from the editors

1998 wasn't the best year for the mainstream media. The Clinton-Lewinsky story broke in mid-January, and still often leads the TV news—bo-ring American viewers, let alone Canadian. Southam launched *The National Post* to a chorus of yawns, and the game of musical ownership continued in other Canadian newspapers, as Southam, Sun Media, Quebecor, Torstar and Thompson adjusted their empires by trading newspapers back and forth as if playing a massive game of Go Fish.

By contrast, 1998 was a pretty good year to be an alternative newspaper. As more newspapers are owned by fewer people with narrower, more conservative agendas, there are more stories that are poorly reported, underreported or not reported at all in the mainstream media.

It is *Vue Weekly's* New Year's resolution to continue to bring you these stories.

As always, the past year brought change to this newspaper. We bid farewell to some writers and



brought others on board.

There were changes in the editorial staff of *Vue Weekly*. In May, we welcomed our new editor-in-chief, David Gobeil Taylor. He was soon followed by associate editor David DiCenzo, contributing news editor Charles Mandel and assistant editor Paul Matychuk.

We were not exempt from the media ownership trend. In June, Vancouver's *The Georgia Straight* bought a 50 per cent share in *Vue Weekly*. This partnership has given us access to more resources, allowing us to continue our quest to be the kind of quality independent alternative newspaper Edmonton deserves.

For this last issue of 1998 and first issue of 1999, we've included

pictures of our writers, both to give them some well-deserved recognition and show you the faces behind the bylines. Each of them looks back on the year that was, sharing with you the highlights and lowlights in music, the performing arts, film and, of course, news in 1998.

We thank our contributing writers, our advertisers and you our readers for your support as we continue this, our fourth year as *Vue Weekly* and eighth year of independent alternative newsweekly publishing. With your help, we'll continue to be the best—and only independent—alternative media source in the city.

Oh—and Happy New Year.

Ron Garth, Editor/Publisher

David Gobeil Taylor, Editor-in-chief

TO STEAL THIS PROMOTIONAL IDEA, PLEASE CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

YOUR PRESCRIPTION FOR
PRE-RELEASE

PRE-MILLENNIUM TENSION
UNDERDOG

10425 WHYTE AVE

December 31**New Year's Eve**

7 am - 1 am

January 1**New Year's Day**

7 am - 1 am

Whyte Avenue
10402 82 Ave.
439-8097

**SIDETRACK**

Cafe

SHOWTIME

9:15 PM

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The Rockin' Highliners

JANUARY**01 FRI-SAT 02****Eddie Shaw & the Wolfgang****03 SUNDAY****Variety Night**

Hosted By **ATOMIC IMPROV. CO.**

MONDAY 04

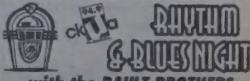
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for Sidetrack staff Christmas party

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with

The Peter Franck Band

WEDNESDAY 06

RHYTHM & BLUES NIGHT

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Vue

WEEKLY

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We strive to ensure that our comprehensive listings are correct. However, in this uncertain world events beyond anyone's control can torpedo even the best-laid plans of mice and—wait for it—men! So call ahead. Letters/artwork/submissions are always welcome by fax, mail, e-mail or (zounds!) hand delivery. Woo-hoo! Just 800 years left till the 5-digit Y10K bug!

MILLENNIUM COUNTDOWN

365 days and counting

By DAVID GOBEIL TAYLOR

Tick, tick, tick...

Here I am sitting in front of my blank computer screen, deciding what I want the first words of the first edition of this new column to be.

I just got an idea.

I'm going to advance the clock on my computer to 11:59 p.m., December 31, 1999.

Pardon me a moment.

There we go. 11:59:00... 11:59:15... 11:59:30... 11:59:45... 11:59:55...

Huh. 12:00 a.m. January 1, 2000 (Or as my computer renders it, "1/1/00"). It still works. I just saved this file, and the computer's sorting it as 2000, not 1900.

After further experimentation... I discover my computer won't let me set the date past December 31, 2019. Does that mean there will be a "Y2.02K" bug? Of course, by that time, Microsoft will have taken over the world and it will be Year 4 AB (*Anno Billigates*).

Tips for an organized Armageddon

Top 10 things I should probably do before 12:01 a.m., January 1st, 2000

By LORRAINE RESSLER

There seem to be two schools of thought regarding Y2K. Many people are worried that the world will come screeching to a halt on January 1 because everything computerized will break down. Some students of the Bible, however, think any inconvenience we encounter will be the result of nothing less than the arrival of a Biblical Armageddon. On the off chance that one or both of these types of Y2K-phobes are actually right, I suppose a little planning is in order. Here's my list of things I should do this year to prepare.

10. Apply for a lot of credit cards and shop, shop, shop. The worst that can happen is that I and the million other geniuses who do the same will declare bankruptcy in a year, plunging the economy into chaos.

9. Get religion. These Armageddon types might be right—better safe than sorry, I always say.

8. Do laundry on December 30, 1999. My mother always warned

Not that Mac OS 8 is the perfect acid test for the Y2K bug—according to my handy-dandy TechTool utility, my computer was built March 29, 1998 (and it's already been used for 2203 hours—I've got to get out more). By then, the programmers must have seen Y2K coming.

So my question is: why don't utility companies et al. do exactly what I did? If the power shuts off, reset the computer clock to 1998 and fix it. If the date turns to 1900, will computers realize that hydroelectric dams haven't been invented yet and implode?

I'm sure somebody's thought of this—and I'm going to get to the bottom of it.

Hence this column.

Never in history has a date loomed so ominously over so many. (There was widespread panic on December 31, 1999, but there were far fewer people inhabiting the earth, let alone using a Western calendar.) Opinion, or at least fatalism, is sharply divided. Some will doubtlessly hunker down surrounded by guns and their life savings in Krugerrands—hopefully the banks are preparing for such a run.

Others will laugh in the face of caution and alarmists predicting planes falling from the sky. There will be millennial flights, with supersonic jets celebrating the New Year in all 24 time zones.

By MATT BROMLEY

Whether the 21st century begins in 2000 or 2001 academic; the arrival of the new millennium is a momentous point in history. The last time this particular event happened, the most industrialized members of our species were wearing togas to the office. And of course, there've been rumours of Jesus of Nazareth appearing for a reunion tour in the new century. (Who would open for him? Nine Inch Nails?) However, an actual date hasn't been agreed upon, and management isn't talking.

While the coming of the new millennium is certainly cause for celebration, don't forget that many things will vanish with the disappearance of the old century, too. The Industrial Revolution was going full steam ahead (pun intended) when it began, and in the span of a short 100 years, mankind has cured diseases, built vast cities, warred viciously and banded together, all on a scale unparalleled in earth's history.

6. Invest in a funeral parlour. Best case scenario: Armageddon hits, I'm one of the last to go, I make some money. Worst case scenario: No Armageddon, cryogenics are perfected in 2001, we diversify.

5. Actually make plans to go out on New Year's Eve for once. I'd rather not face Armageddon alone with Dick Clark.

4. Stock up on cases of Chef Boyardee, canned chili con carne and Dr. Pepper. Even if there's no power outage or water shortage, 2000 will be one tasty year!

3. Watch lots of *Flintstones* episodes and caveman movies to get survival tips. The Y2K-phobes seem to think that's how far back our civilization will regress without computers.

2. Somehow force all the radio stations in Edmonton to destroy every copy of that Prince song 1999. I'm already sick of it! A year from now, it'll be making my ears bleed.

1. Wear myself off of everything that's run by a microchip. (Oh yeah, that'll happen!)

Revolution

continued from page 2

to "trash" every tobacco billboard.

10. Kill your television; or better yet, keep it in bondage, gagged by the mute switch, letting it speak when only you want it to.

Dale Ladouceur is a regular news writer for Vue Weekly, and the meanest Chapman Stick player in town.

There will be dozens of ships amassed along the International Date Line so that their passengers can be the first and last to greet the third millennium.

During a brief stint as a tour guide in New York City many years ago, I met an employee of the Marriott Hotel who claimed the revolving restaurant overlooking Times Square had been booked for December 31, 1999 since the early '70s. (I only have his word for it, however, and he was clearly trying to pick me up, so he might have just been making conversation. He didn't succeed, by the way—I'm not that easily impressed.)

I have a bet with a friend in Montreal—I'll call him at 11:59 on December 31 and if we're still talking, he'll buy me a beer. (If we're cut off, we'll probably have bigger problems than the beer I'll owe him, so hopefully it'll be forgotten—heh heh.)

Over the next 53 weeks (yes, 53, because of the way the Thursdays happen to fall), I'll try to get to the bottom of the Y2K bug. Is this a real problem, or just a manifestation of millennial angst?

One thing's for sure—by the time December 31 rolls around, everyone will be even more sick of hearing about the millennium and the Y2K bug than they'll be of that damn Prince song. I'll try to at least alleviate the tedium by looking at other millennial issues—the aforementioned possible bank run, a look back at the last turn of the millennium, maybe even some Nos-tradamus.

And I'll definitely be playing a game I invented called "Millennium Bingo." You can play, too—the person who finds the most instances of "millennium" misspelled with one "n" wins.

Three hundred sixty-five days and counting.

Having the life of your time

Suggestions before the new millennium

By MATT BROMLEY

markets are going to remain stable. If you don't have the lion's share of your investments locked into something to ride out the birth pains of 2000, you're better off putting your money into a big value-holding item like real estate (or a chunk of gold you can keep in a shoebox) until the markets stabilize.

millennium

thing to ride out the birth pains of 2000, you're better off putting your money into a big value-holding item like real estate (or a chunk of gold you can keep in a shoebox) until the markets stabilize.

4. Visit a church—First, let me say that I'm an agnostic, which is a term people invented to mean "maybe, maybe not" with regard to supreme beings and the hereafter. I have absolutely no evidence one way or the other that anything will happen to the biochemical milkshake typing these keys come the new millennium that would require me to appease, credit or blame anything other than myself for. But the flip side is, ya never know. Anyways, churches are pretty and quiet, and make a good place to take a timeout and think about things.

5. Plant a tree—Believe me, this entry isn't a bone I'm throwing to Tooker or anything. But think about it: something that you planted will grow a long time into the new age, possibly long after you're another tree's fertilizer. It's a nice sentiment and a helpful gesture.

6. Take your parents/grandparents to dinner—We are lucky enough to witness the birth of a new millennium. Our children and grandchildren will witness things we haven't even dreamed of, and will consider it amazing that we were born before home computers or space flight or who knows what future events. Take an evening to listen to your own elders' stories over dinner—what a great way to honour them and get a greater perspective on the 20th century before it fades from everybody's memory.

7. Watch a sunset, sleep under the stars, and watch a sunrise—This seems mundane, but how many times have you done it? We have far less leisure time in our lives now than people did in the 1900s, and the curve is steepening. Set one night aside to absorb the experience.

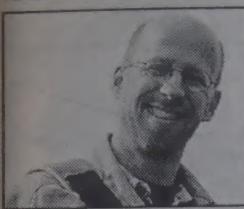
8. Buy some stock—Again, it seems mundane, but Y2K and the new millennium will have a great impact on early 2000 markets. If you've ever played a VLT, then there is no excuse to not gamble a little on the stock market and see which way the dice will fall in the following year.

9. Sell some stock—Like I said, you're kidding yourself if you think

Matt Bromley is the layout manager and a contributing writer for Vue Weekly.

VUE news

Your urban alternative guide to the week's really important events



1998. Wasn't that a year for the record books? Scandal, mayhem, disaster... along with all the other usual trivial pursuits. On the one hand, pepper spray and the Oral Office dominated news coverage—on the other, so did the Spice Girls, Teletubbies and Furby.

Here at *Vue Weekly*, we often found ourselves covering the same events as the mainstream press, although not always from the same angles. But just as often we also wrote about offbeat stories which we hope struck a chord with our readers.

As we enter 1999, here's our New Year's resolution: *Vue News* will continue to provide you with the best coverage of alternative news in the city.

Now, here's a look back at *Vue News* in 1998.

environment

Special Places 2000 and the Cheviot Mine topped the list of controversies. By year's end, the clamour over Special Places 2000—the government program purportedly aimed at protecting wilderness areas but apparently aimed at opening them up to resource development—had grown loud.

Two of the three environmental stakeholders involved in the program pulled out, while other Green groups began to make devastating critical pronouncements about the ineffectiveness of the Special Places program.

Dianne Pachal, conservation manager for the Alberta Wilderness Association, spoke for a lot of people when she said, "We haven't seen anything yet come through as protected under Special Places."

The government tried to head off the controversy by waging a letter campaign in the newspapers, designating new "special places," and finally calling a meeting for the new year to discuss the issue with environmentalists.

Environmentalists not only forced government to meet with them over Special Places, but they won several battles in the fight to prevent the Cheviot Mine proposal from going ahead. Green groups oppose the mine, which would be built just outside Jasper National Park, claiming, among other things, that the project will disrupt grizzly bear habitats.

Environmentalists won a court decision to have the site's environmental review appealed. Some interesting sidebar came as a result of the involvement of the American eco-group the Rainforest Action Network.

Soon after the American group announced their intention to intervene and help protest the mine site, its founder, Randy Hayes, got slapped with a lawsuit from Caha-

**The people of IRAQ
resolve to crush
the great American Satan
and to turn away all of
their UN, food and
medical humanitarian aid...**



dian forestry consultant and former Greenpeace founder Patrick Moore. In a legal first, Moore alleged that RAN, Hayes and others defamed him on the Internet with a site that alleged he was a liar and altered his image.

Locally, members of the Edmonton Natural History Club have continued fighting to save Little Mountain from developers. The 47-hectare site in northeast Edmonton is the last undisturbed stand of aspen parkland within city limits.

And the co-ordinator of the city's proposed greenway system expressed her disgust after it was discovered Canada Land Corp., owner of the former railway right-of-way, was selling portions of the proposed green belt to light industrial businesses bordering the path. The sale was conducted with the city's blessing.

media

The *National Post* was launched, the *Toronto Star* wooed the Sun chain and lost to Quebecor, and the *Globe and Mail* stayed the course. We've already heard a lot of fuss over the newspaper wars, but the conflict is only just beginning; it will most likely take at least seven years for any real shake-up to occur.

Consolidation also took place in cyberspace as the large Internet service providers, search engines and commercial sites all tried to reinvent themselves as portals or gateways to the World Wide Web. The CRTC also began pondering the impossible: regulation of the Internet.

Closer to home, Vancouver's 31-year-old urban alternative *Georgia Straight* launched a Calgary edition and bought 50 per cent ownership in *Vue Weekly*.

Meanwhile, there was trouble

in radio-land. The CKUA Radio Foundation launched a suit against the former foundation, alleging they didn't serve the radio station's best interests. Gail Hinchliffe, the former foundation head, launched a countersuit and then followed it with a third-party suit. In the midst of all this, the general manager resigned, saying he'd misread CKUA's financial information, an oversight that led to a deficit at the beleaguered station.

Of course, things weren't any better over at the CBC. Veteran reporter Terry Milewski fended off allegations from the Prime Minister's Office that he showed bias in his story on the APEC pepper spray incident. Then the broadcaster suspended the reporter after he wrote a commentary in the *Globe and Mail*.

In a more recent development, the entire mandate of the public broadcaster will be up for review this spring as the CBC heads into its period of license renewal with the CRTC.

and . . .

* Gas well bombings in Peace River country attracted international media attention, including a feature in *Outside* magazine;

* Tooker Gomberg, fresh off a worldwide bicycle odyssey, returned home, drove a car, made an unsuccessful bid for the mayor's office, and then declared he would set off on a cross-country bicycle odyssey;

* Edmonton cartoonist Adam Thrasher was cleared of discrimination charges after a University of Alberta appeal board declared his comic *Space Moose* inoffensive. The cartoon showed the title character using a machine gun to mow down women at a Take Back the Night rally;

* Meanwhile, there was trouble

* Druidic Pope Ken Kirk got five months for trafficking marijuana, which he claims he needs for medical reasons. A poster campaign was launched to free Kirk from jail;

* New laws were enacted across the country to curtail panhandling and squeegee-kid activity;

* Liberal Gen Zwozdesky turned Tory, citing differences with new Liberal party leader Nancy MacBeth;

* Municipalities took to the polls to vote on VLTs;

* The Master Transportation Plan was shelved for the winter after extensive community activism against it;

* Fed up with city non-action, Alberta Avenue residents took to the streets to find the area's worst slum.

quotes

"Obviously, something will more than likely suffer somewhere." (Tory MLA Judy Gordon, predicting what might happen in the event of the loss of VLT revenues)

"We're not talking about serious musicianship here. So what's the difference between five and four?" (Mirror music writer David Wigg, weighing in on Ginger Spice's departure)

"Probably me. I'm so terribly normal I can't stand it." (Ward 4 city councilor Michael Phair, speculating as to who Ralph Klein means when he refers to "severely normal people")

"I'm happy inside." (Mayor Bill Smith, getting all warm and fuzzy after his re-election)

"Bathing suits are ridiculous pieces of clothing." (Stephane Deschenes, a spokesperson for the Federation of Canadian Nudists, heaping abuse on textiles—i.e., people who wear clothing)

VUE POINT

By LESLEY PRIMEAU

"THE TIME HAS COME," the editor said, "to speak of many things." Of top ten lists, to be exact—but the top ten what? Other writers will no doubt offer their takes on the top ten news stories of the year: the drag 'em out (forever) sale of the Oilers... the Alberta version of the David and Goliath story, here entitled WEM vs. ATB, not to mention its prequel, What the Tories Knew... the government's ever-so-sensitive decision to invoke the notwithstanding clause for people they'd already beaten to a pulp—and they weren't even gay! And of course, we also had Nancy's return.

Other writers will name the top ten music releases of the year. On that list you might find the U2 compilation, the latest CDs from Alanis Morissette or Celine Dion, and no doubt something be someone whose name I don't recognize and couldn't pronounce if I did. Music, after all, has become something of a competition between weird names and weirder faces. It's probably a good thing I don't have to provide my top ten music picks; I'm only just now catching up with the Ben Folds Five's first disc.

As for the top ten books of the year... Well, in my line of work, I receive a whole wack of books that at best I only have time to skim. Until I find the time to thoroughly read a book that has nothing to do with work, I'll leave the task of compiling a book list to somebody else.

My top ten movies? Well, Ever After with Drew Barrymore was a personal favourite, and I have to confess that I really liked Antonio Banderas in *The Mask of Zorro*, so that ought to give you an idea of what kind of moviegoing mindset I possess. But let's be serious: who's got a chance at the Oscars with *Truman* and *Private Ryan* leading the pack? Poor Jim Carrey. He finally gets serious, only to be upstaged by another incredible performance from Tom Hanks. That's show biz...

What other areas are there? The top sports story was probably Mark McGwire's home run race with Sammy Sosa. Close behind would likely be the Oilers sale, and that bobo-brain from the U.S. who said he was going to buy our team... but had no money to do it with. D'oh! Let's see... Edmonton landed the 2001 Track and Field Championships... um... Is it obvious yet how little attention I pay to the evening sportscast? I've run out of entries already.

I know the sort of top ten lists we should make: The top ten charities that make a difference in the lives of people ruined by our callous provincial government. The top ten politicians who only want to advance their own fortunes and could not give a damn about anyone else. The top ten volunteers who do it not for the tax receipt but for the love of it. How about the top ten students—the students who produced the best effort, not the best marks?

If you're reading this column to find out my 1998 top ten list, though, here it is—counting backward: Maple walnut, Lemon ice, especially the kind they make at Pinocchio's. Breyer's strawberry, as well as their Neapolitan, Peaches and cream at Baskin-Robbins, not to mention their world-class chocolate and their peach. Haagen-Dazs vanilla is certainly a force to be reckoned with. Number two: Pinocchio's white chocolate; and, without a doubt, the best ice cream in the city... Pinocchio's baccia—the most incredible chocolate in the world.

Happy New Year: I hope the season makes you smile from your heart and beam from your soul.

Lesley Primeau may be heard weeknights from 6-9 p.m. on 630 CHED.



Great Books Are Just The Beginning

Staff
Picks

20% off the following titles

A Wizard of Earthsea

by Ursula LeGuin

A fantasy tale both profound and wise, it is the story of a young man's growing understanding of the nature of power and the power of acceptance.

Christine

Remains of the Day

by Kazuo Ishiguro

The story is simple, but the words and emotions are complex. Ishiguro's prose is measured yet poetic and, like the tale it tells, ultimately poignant.

Lisa

Hockey for Dummies

by John Davidson with John Steinbrenner

Living in a city that eats, sleeps and breathes hockey isn't easy if you can't follow the game. This easy-to-follow book will take you through it step by step, complete with all the rules...without making you feel like a dummy.

Carolyn

The Complete Tales of Winnie-the-Pooh

by A.A. Milne

Great lessons of childhood and friendship for children of all ages. Winnie has humour, heart, and honey. You never can tell with bees!

Michelle

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BESTSELLERS

Fiction: Hardcover

- 1) *A Man in Full* Tom Wolfe (Bantam)
- 2) *Bag of Bones* Stephen King (Doubleday)
- 3) *Path of Daggers* Robert Jordan (H.B. Fenn)
- 4) *Miracle* Danielle Steel (Bantam)
- 5) *I Know This Much is True* Wally Lamb (Harper Collins)

Non-fiction: Hardcover

- 1) *Titan* Peter C. Newman (Penguin)
- 2) *In the Realtime* Jane Smiley (Doubleday)
- 3) *Simple Simon* Sarah Ban Breathnach (H.B. Fenn)
- 4) *Something More* Sarah Ban Breathnach (H.B. Fenn)
- 5) *The Eatons* Rod McQueen (General)

Fiction: Trade Paperback

- 1) *Tara Road* Maeve Binchy (McArthur & Co.)
- 2) *The Underpainter* Jane Urquhart (McClelland & Stewart)
- 3) *Beloved* Toni Morrison (Penguin)
- 4) *Midwives* Chris Bevilajian (Random House)
- 5) *Now Falling on Cedars* David Guterson (Random House)

Non-fiction: Trade Paperback

- 1) *Don't Sweat the Small Stuff* Richard Carlson (H.B. Fenn)
- 2) *Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul II* Jack Canfield et al (Thomas Allen & Sons)
- 3) *Best of the Best of Bridge & More* Edie Baskin (General)
- 4) *Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul* Jack Canfield et al (Thomas Allen & Sons)
- 5) *Don't Sweat the Small Stuff at Work* Richard Carlson (H.B. Fenn)

Fiction: Mass Market

- 1) *Shattered* Danielle Steel (Bantam)
- 2) *Power Play* Shoshana.com Tom Clancy (Berkley)
- 3) *Fear Nothing* Dean Koontz (Bantam)
- 4) *Survival of the Fittest* Jonathan Kellerman (Bantam)
- 5) *Deception on His Mind* Elizabeth George (Bantam)

BESTSELLER information
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The top 10 comic books of 1998

By KIM MACDONALD

Some call them a waste of time and money, others think they're strictly for children. And then there are those of us who know better. For those enlightened souls, I present the top comic books (by issue) of 1998.

1. Robin (DC)—It's tough to pick just one standout issue here; this is the series that *Wizard* magazine named best of the year. But if you're forced to choose, #59 is the one to pick up. Robin not only has to deal with a pregnant girlfriend (it's not his), but also the murder of one of his classmates.

2. Birds of Prey (DC)—Strong female characters with proportionate breasts. DC finally took this series monthly, and it's shaping up as a front runner for the best book of 1999. Oracle and Black Canary are a hell of a team, and the creators haven't stepped wrong yet. Check out issue #2—Canary is being held as one of the many rich slaves of crime lord Jackie Pajamas. And it's

not written as some bondage fantasy.

3. Battlechaser (Cliffhanger)—Without a doubt, the most popular new comic of the year. Even an erratic publishing schedule can't keep the fans away. I've been told this one is great, but haven't been able to bring myself to shell out the \$25-30 for a copy. Jump on board with issue #1—if you can afford it.

4. Daredevil (Marvel Knights)—Suspenseful and psychological. A newborn baby is Earth's saviour...or the Antichrist. And the child has been left in Daredevil's care. Wonderful art, and writer Kevin Smith (*Clerks*, *Chasing Amy*) has done great things here. Issue #2 is the standout.

5. Deadpool (Marvel)—There's no way everyone's favourite merc-with-a-mouth could stay out of the top five. Sick and hilarious; unfortunately, it just didn't sell enough copies. *Deadpool* ends with issue #30. In the meantime, pick up #16—Bulldog appears, as does the sheep gun. (Don't ask.)

6. Incredible Hulk (Marvel)—Okay, so it's not just one issue, but #466 and #467 are the ones to get here. They're the final issues of long-time writer Peter David, and are as notable for the number of anti-Marvel boycott letters as for the story. Bruce Banner/the Hulk's wife Betty dies of radiation poisoning, and Bruce can't handle the loss.

7. Stormwatch, Vol. 2 (Wildstorm)—One of my comic fanatic friends calls this the best team book out there. #11 is at the tail end of Warren Ellis's run, and it marks some radical changes for the



team.

8. Young Justice (DC)—Young heroes Robin, Superboy and Impulse team up as sort of a young JLA, but these guys are much more fun. Later in the series the guys are joined by Arrowette, Secret, and Wonder Girl, but start from the beginning; issue #1 is the best.

9. Tales of the Green Lantern (Tangent/DC)—There was some wonderful storytelling in DC's *Tangent* line, and this one was one of its high points. Instead of being a superhero, this female Green Lantern helps the dead find peace.

10. Alpha Flight (Marvel)—This, the second incarnation of Canada's superhero team, has been off and on since issue #1. Absolutely lousy artwork, but some brilliant stories. #13 was one of the best books I've read all year—conspiracy, Big Brother, and the return of some former team members. *Alpha* has also met with the Marvel axe. The end arrives early in the new year with issue #20.

Kim MacDonald is a contributing writer for Vue Weekly.

Top 10
reasons to
get away

By AVIVA KOHEN

10. Free pretzels and peanuts on the airplane.

9. Spread the lousy Canadian dollar around the world—why should Canadians be the only ones stuck with it?

8. Watching Oilers games (thanks to satellite dishes) from a warm climate.

7. Meeting new people with whom you can exchange e-mail addresses, thereby increasing your list and making you the envy of all of your friends back home. (You will also have places to stay the next time you travel.)

6. It's a break from being taxed up the #*#@!—Ralph can't get to you as long as you stay away.

5. You can't pull your grain on the beach.

4. Eat genuine ethnic food—not just pasta from places called "Joe's House of Noodles."

3. 925 is the area code, not your work hours.

2. You can spread "ah" worldwide.

1. La Niña—she's gonna be a bitch!

Aviva Kohen is a sales representative for Vue Weekly. She is currently in Europe, following her own advice by taking a four-month vacation.

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Listen up, Edmonton entrepreneurs!

Top 10 small businesses to open in Edmonton in 1999

By CHRIS TENOVE

I don't mean to start a rumour that will send worldwide stock markets tumbling, but I predict employment in Edmonton won't be any easier to find come the new year. Don't wait for more public sector downsizing or downward-spiralling pork demand to jeopardize your financial security! Entrepreneurship is the name of the game. Here's a few suggestions to get you started.

3. Editor of *The Whiney Voice*—*Our Voice*, sold by those in difficult financial straits across Western Canada, needs a competitor. *The Whiney Voice* would be sold exclusively by those spoiled brats who beg for money to augment their weekly allowance. The month's number-one vendor would get a

Top 10 Canadian books of 1998

By LAURA OLLERENSHAW

In the last few years, Canadian authors seem to have moved away from writing about this country's most obvious feature: the cold weather. We have tired of the depressing *Lamp at Noon* and *Stone Angel*-like literature we were forced to read in high school, and have moved gratefully towards stories that examine relationships, emotions and actions not necessarily dependent on low temperatures and Arctic winds. Some of the writers I have chosen for my list of the year's best Canadian books are fairly new, and their work has the potential to change how people around the world perceive Canada and Canadians.

The White Bone by Barbara Gowdy is a unique story told by an orphan elephant named Mud with the ability to foresee the future. Gowdy travelled to Kenya to research her subject, with amazing results.

An Anarchist's Dream by Jocko is a collection of poetry about aspects of people's lives that we often take for granted, but which are shown here in a new light. Jocko inventively re-examines things we usually ignore because of their sheer normalcy.

Home From the Vinyl Café by Stuart McLean is a collection of humorous stories first heard on McLean's radio show. The everyday events in the lives of this everyday family often have hilarious consequences.

The Widows by Suzette Mayr is a novel about three elderly women who try to live their lives and prove to the world that they are still important and useful by going over Niagara Falls in a barrel.

The Love of a Good Woman by Alice Munro is a collection of stories about what people will do for love and the extent that these actions control their lives.

A Recipe For Bees by Gail Anderson-Dargatz is a novel about the cycle of things: marriage, family and aging, mixed with domestic detail, bee lore and rural imagery.



The Man From the Creek by Robert Kroetsch is the story of a young boy who, along with his mother, takes part in the Klondike Gold Rush, coming out ahead where so many in his position failed.

The Garden of Eden by Sharon Butala is a novel spanning two generations of prairie women and deals with their search to heal themselves.

Stolen Life: The Journey of a Creek Woman by Rudy Wiebe and Yvonne Johnson is the story of Johnson's amazing life: her struggle with a double cleft palate, physical and sexual abuse and incest as a child, as well as her spiritual regrowth after alcoholism, murder and prison.

The Farfars by Farley Mowat is a very convincing attempt to prove that the European roots in North America go back farther than the Vikings.

Laura Ollerenshaw is a contributing writer for Vue Weekly.

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THE FRONT

product from Hugo Boss. Qualifications: knowledge of designer brand names

4. Line Dance Choreographer/Composer—Edmonton, or at least parts of it, is proud of its country music tradition. Why doesn't the City of Champions have its own line dance? Our signature shuffle could incorporate local customs such as scraping iced car windows, swatting mosquitoes, or just shivering in place. Qualifications: marketing skills and a modicum of rhythm

5. Pants Downsizer—Those 40-gallon pants, the ones that are properly worn with the waist cinched just above the knees, seem to be losing favour. Each pair could probably be made into two regular pairs and a few extra rags for cleaning around the house. Qualifications: contacts in Edmonton high schools and a sewing machine

6. Whyte Avenue Sniper—We all know there are too many pub-crawlers on our favourite commercial strip these days. The public would gladly cough up a few bucks for someone to weed out this mob. Ideally, the entrepreneur would pick off any guy who asks, "Do you

got a problem?" and any girl who says, "I'm sooooo drunk." Qualifications: good night vision; some psychopathology recommended

7. Thai Food Restauranteur—Please, I love Thai food. Competition would bring down prices across the city. Qualifications: Anybody. Please...I'm begging you.

8. Endangered Species Taxidermist—As more of our province's essential habitats are declared Special Places (so that corporations can mine and log the living crap out of them), increasing numbers of species will approach extinction. A nicely stuffed specimen of an endangered species, sold to the right people, could yield big bucks. Qualifications: Ty Lund, you know this has been your goal all along

9. Edmonton Spice—There's still a spot to fill on the Spice Girls' roster. Why not an Edmontonian? Some suggestions: Nature Spice, who wears a crown of laurel and yodels frequently; Cruella de Spice, who dresses in a bodice of Dalmatian pelts and adds that touch of class which Posh Spice fails to bring; or Transgender Spice—one of the guys from Boyz II Men, 'N Sync, or any other boyz band can get the nip and tuck and shows the world how much he can sell. Qualifications: enjoys pinching the asses of royalty; musical ability may be an impediment



Sync, or any other boyz band can get the nip and tuck and shows the world how much he can sell. Qualifications: enjoys pinching the asses of royalty; musical ability may be an impediment

10. Freelance Writer—After receiving this lame Top 10 list, Vue Weekly editor David Gobbel Taylor may be looking for a new writer to take my place. Qualifications: debatable.

Chris Tenove is a regular, if self-deprecating, writer for Vue Weekly.

NEW YEAR'S EVE 1998

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**CONDITIONS REPORT**

Season's Greetings Skiers and Boarders! Most hills expecting daily high temperatures above -10°C on Wednesday. This report is current as of Wednesday morning.

RABBIT HILL

Excellent Conditions. Runs: 95% open and groomed in the last 24 hours. All lifts operating. Base: 60 cm. This week 8cm of new snow.

SUNRIDGE

Good to very good conditions on groomed runs. Base: 54cm+. Snow making in progress. All lifts, 6 runs open.

SNOW VALLEY

Excellent, on machine groomed runs. Base: 50cm.

FERNIE 800-258-7669

Excellent skiing and riding on soft packed groomed runs. Base of 27cm. New: 27cm, 103cm in the last 7 days. 6 lifts open and 60 runs.

MARMOT BASIN 488-5909

Excellent conditions on fresh powder, or machine groomed runs. 46 runs open, 226 cm of snowfall has created a base of 80cm+, 7cm new.

BANFF NORQUAY

Manmade Base: 80cm-90cm. Natural snow base: 60-89cm, 3cm new, 25cm new in the past week. All lifts open.

SUNSHINE VILLAGE 496-7669

100% natural snow! Base: 170cm. New: 12cm, 52cm in the last 4 days. 11 lifts in operation.

LAKE LOUISE 800-258-7669

Excellent on fresh powder. Snow depth 100-120cm. New 20cm+.

NAKISKA 800-258-7669

Excellent to very good conditions on fresh powder and machine groomed runs, all lifts open. New: 10cm in the past 24 hours and 30cm in the last 7 days.

FORTRESS 800-258-7669

Excellent skiing and riding on powder and soft packed powder. New: 8cm, 65cm in the last 7 days. All lifts and all 47 runs open.

KIMBERLY 800-258-7669

Very good to excellent skiing and riding on soft machine groomed runs. New: 14cm in last 24 hours, 75cm in the last 6 days. X-Country trails rated excellent.

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Ski resort offers Panoram-ic delights

By HART GOLBECK

In only six short years, Panorama has grown through yearly expansion to become one of our great mountain resorts. The size of its ski terrain has doubled and, with the addition of fantastic amenities like a Ski Tip daylodge and new condominiums, Panorama has kept pace with the increase in runs and traffic. This site, which *Ski Canada* magazine has recently named "best new base area," can be found just two hours southwest of Banff on the edge of the world-famous bugaboos. Panorama already has 200 cm of snowfall so far this year and conditions are excellent.

Intrawest Resorts own panorama, along with many other megaresorts like Whistler, Tremblant and Mammoth in California. They will continue to expand Panorama, hoping to double its size again by year 2000. For now, Panorama has lots of

great skiing to offer and the crowds are sparse.

A ride up its two chairs and two T-bars puts you at 7,800 feet, just above the "Extreme Dream" zone.

From here, you can blast down double black diamond runs like Gunbarrel and Fat Chance, or you can hang to the right and head to the new expansion area called View of 1,000 Peaks. That name speaks for itself, as fabulous scenery will force you to stop and gawk a few times while you're carving down some intermediate terrain.

On the other side of the mountain, there are still some awesome cruising runs like Schober's Dream, along with diversions like Alive. In the past few years, Panorama has been named best cruising hill in the Rockies by many a ski magazine. But Panorama has a lot more to offer besides cruising runs, as you'll learn when you drown yourself in powder in the Sun Bowl and

exit onto Drano on your way back to Schober's.

Glacial progress

At the base, ski-to-your-door accommodations await you, complete with hot tubs, restaurants, lounges and night clubs. At the Great Hall in the Ski Tip lodge, steaming calzones are served from a wood-burning oven. The Kicking Horse Bar and Grill is a great place to relax and take in some live entertainment. If you want to party the night away, then the Glaciernite Nite Club is the place to kick up your heels until the wee hours. For everyday needs, there's even a general store where you can pick up any items you may have forgotten.

If you've got a few extra dollars in your pocket and are looking for more adventure, just head next door to R.K. Heli-Ski, where choppers with experienced guides fly you to mountain tops with average annual snowfalls of 36 feet. You don't have to be an expert to Heli-Ski—after



Scott Rowed
Powder skiing at Panorama

they outfit you with "Fatboys" and give you an orientation, you'll be ready to go. Heli-Skiing is the most exhilarating ski experience ever and may even change your outlook on life. You feel so free gliding on unmarked powder in the middle of nowhere. Eating a picnic lunch served on the side of a mountaintop is a real treat as well.

Panorama is definitely worth the extra two-hour drive; you can also grab a shuttle there in Banff. Or better yet, try taking a trip with one of Edmonton's ski tour operators. They go there all the time.

Panorama: 1-800-663-2929;
R.K. Heli-Ski: 1-800-661-6060

Zeke's ski-chair checklist

By COLIN "ZEKE THE SKI FREAK" CATHREA

Here's a few quick tips to keep in mind the next time you're riding the chair.

1. Don't look down close to your skis. Keep your eyes focused well ahead to help anticipate the terrain.
2. Start off the day with a couple of good warmup runs, especially if you'll be skiing a few days in a row.
3. Take time to practice rhythmic parallel turns on easy slopes. Rhythm is the key to handling bumps and skiing off-piste.
4. When you're on ice, picture the weight of your entire body acting upon the ball of the foot on your downhill leg. Combine this action with good, smooth un-weighting and weighting to generate the pressure your skis need to grip the ice.
5. Always remove the inner boots from your ski boots so they can dry overnight. It'll help keep your feet a lot warmer the next day.
6. Before you go on an extended ski trip, get your edges sharpened, even if you don't know what the snow conditions will be. It's easy to carry a piece of sandpaper to dull them with if the snow is unexpectedly soft.
7. Plotting your line down a mogul field is best done by planting your pole on the top of each bump, and turning as if it were a slalom pole.
8. In bad light conditions, restrict yourself to runs that are below the tree line, where there will be better contrast. If you do get caught above the tree line in white-out conditions, ski near, but never over, the edge of the run; the piste marker pole will help you orient yourself.
9. Don't eat yellow snow, unless it's a Galloane Slurpee.
10. Try experimenting. (With your technique, not drugs!) Vary your stance, the width of your skis, your balance point, etc. You'll soon find the right feeling that should allow you to ski stress-free for hours on end.



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SPORTS notes

By DAVID DICENZO

Did 1998 mark a breakthrough year in the world of sports? Well, in some ways, it surely was spectacular, but as we head closer to the millennium, we received some harsh reminders of the chaos

surrounding the games we love to watch (and play). Here's a brief recap of some of the year's highlights, as well as some praise for those who made a difference in '98.

Mile High win—After a few kicks at the can, Denver finally took home the Super Bowl trophy with a memorable win over the Green Bay Packers last January. Who can forget a rejuvenated John Elway risking life and limb to get his team a much-needed first down? He looked more like the rookie Elway of 1983 than an aging warrior closing in on 40.

Just like Mike—So what: the Chicago Bulls win another NBA championship. Blah, blah, blah. But the magic of this sporting event was witnessing the sheer brilliance of Michael Jordan, the greatest team athlete in history, for perhaps the final time. In the game's last minute, MJ hits a clutch jumper. He gets back on defence and steals the ball. He brings it up, clears every one out, and buries the 20-footer from the top of the key to win the whole thing. What's amazing is that you know he's gonna do it. And then he does. And you just shake your head...especially if you're on

the Utah Jazz

One for Vlad—A repeat of a championship is cause for celebration in any sport, but when the Detroit Red Wings won their second consecutive Stanley Cup this year, the victory contained a special element. The Wings parted on the ice with fallen defenceman Vladimir Constantinev, now in a wheelchair following a tragic limo accident the year before. It was a reminder of what's really important in life: friends, family...health. The win brought tears to my eyes, considering my father, a devout Red Wings fan, lost his own battle with cancer only weeks before. Cheers, Pop.

Young bucks beware—When Mark O'Meara drained a lengthy birdie putt on the 72nd hole of the Masters to win the tournament, a year, and perhaps a career, was complete. But when the 41-year-old came from behind to win the British Open, a legend was born. His sensational play made him golfer of the year in 1998...while his dignity and class made him a model for younger players to copy. Tiger who?

Bonsoir Brazil—Winning on your home turf is always a blast...but winning the World Cup in your own backyard is a once-in-a-lifetime event. France, the host country, overcame some stiff competition and an early round ejection of their star Zidane to win one of sports' most cherished championships. Was Brazil's Ronaldo hurt? Perhaps, but the French team made history nonetheless. Poor Italy: they haven't been eliminated by anything other than a shootout in ages.

On the local front—Edmonton may be the City of Champions, but no cups were raised in 1998. The



Oilers looked great beating the Colorado Avalanche in round one of the Stanley Cup playoffs, but Dallas was too much of a roadblock to overcome. The Eskimos were...aw, forget it. The biggest news in Edmonton sports is what's still to come. As in the World Triathlon Championships and the World Track and Field Championships. Perhaps no champagne flowed this year, but 1998 was still a success.

Great Players (for many years to come)—Randy Moss, Minnesota Vikings; Nomar Garciaparra, Boston Red Sox; Tim Duncan, San Antonio Spurs; Paul Kariya, Anaheim Mighty Ducks; David Duval, PGA golfer.

1998 Sportsman of the Year—If you've read this column throughout the year, you know I'm not exactly a proponent of the Canadian Football League. But the person who I feel embodies professional athletics the most is a man who plays right here in Canada. He's exceptional at what he does, appreciates his opportunities and tries to help others. If everybody in sports were like Mike Clemons, the world wouldn't be in such a mess.

David Dicenzo is the associate editor and a regular sports and music writer for Vue Weekly.

The best of skiing in 1998

By HART GOLBECK and COLIN CATHREA

Deepest Powder: Fernie (Cedar Bowl)—When it snows here, you don't just get a light flurry. With an average annual snowfall of 875 cm, you'll need a shovel to find the lift.

Best Moguls: Lake Louise (Paradise Bowl)—No beginners here, please. You'll find plenty of world-class bumps throughout the bowl, but the ones on the outside are the biggest.

Best Family Skiing: Marmot Basin—Some great intermediate slopes here, which are ideal for beginners and those just learning how to ski. The staff really lives up to their slogan, "The Big Friendly."

Best Hot Tub: Sunshine Village—it's big, *really* big, and it's right on the mountain. There's no better place to soak it, especially when it's snowing.

Best Beer: Kokanee—Supporting boarding and skiing all throughout Canada, there's no better brand when you get that thirst on the slopes.

Best Media Boarder: The A-Channel's Alan Carter—You'd never suspect it when he's doing the news, but put Carter on a board and he can shred with the best of them. Loves climbing for the fresh powder as well.

Best Upper Chalet: Marmot Basin (Paradise Chalet)—It's huge, with plenty of atmosphere for everyone. Chairs, couches, tunes and great food make it the perfect pit stop.

Biggest Expansion: Fernie Alpine Resort—Two new quads

Snow Zone

opening terrain on three new bowls. Spectacular bowl riding and skiing, with awesome glade terrain as well.

Best Lodge: Lake Louise (Whiskeyjack)—The biggest log cabin you'll find anywhere. Long gone are lineups for anything and getting ready for the day has become a pleasant experience.

Best On-Hill Party: Much Music Snow-Job at Marmot Basin (March 8-13)—This five-day party will rock the hills at Marmot like never before. The number three parking lot has been set aside for the main events and spectators will be able to ski to and from the venue.

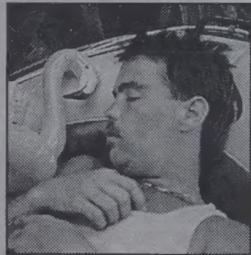
Best Ski Hotel (tie): Chateau Lake Louise, Chateau Jasper and the Jasper Park Lodge—They are all unique and offer a variety of first-class amenities which set them apart from all others. They're a bargain as well during the winter season.

Best Spring Skiing: Sunshine Village—The name says it all. Large snowfalls and the close proximity to Calgary keeps Sunshine open well into the spring. Bring your shorts and plenty of sunscreen.

Best View: Lake Louise—It will take your breath away when you reach the summit of the "Top of the World Quad Express." Before you is the Great Divide with the Chateau Lake Louise nestled below. Bring your camera.

Zeke's Skis: Vokl P30 Slalom—These are the best and most fun skis I've ever stepped into.

Best Cruising: Panorama (Skyline/Fritz's)—Just point and go.



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Best Pizza: Earl's in Jasper—Italian sausage smothered with four types of cheese. A tasty treat, especially when you combine it with their famous hot wings.

Best Après-Ski Bar: Everywhere—Ask someone working on the hill where the best spot to hang is. They're the best source for local information.

Hart Golbeck and Colin "Zeke the Ski Freak" Cathrea are regular Snow Zone writers for Vue Weekly.

10 reasons why Edmonton beats Toronto

How the West is number one

By ROMEO KASERAM

10. In Edmonton, hoarfrost looks great on the lovely northern ash. In T.O., they freeze under Parkdale's trees and shiver like aspens on Yonge Street corners.

9. 100.3 FM roils in E-City! In "inclusive" T.O., homophobes, Francophobes, shock-jock Howard Stern drools on Q107.

8. And Edmonton's finest rule! While "homogenous" in Toronto means rock station Q107 has copied another crop of Canadian musicians, locally it means E-City cops have crooked another lab.

7. Edmontonians crack up in real-time when Toronto-based comedian Mike Bullard takes potshots at wagons in Cowtown and then sweeps north with Ralph Klein drinking

commentary

jokes. Meanwhile, the live television audience in T.O. is laughing out of sync, catching up with the Newfie jokes the day before.

6. In the city of eddies, motorists grumble when the winds of change push the price of gas above 45 cents a litre. Toronto shuts down with line-ups when the winds of gas wars push the price down to 45 cents.

5. Experiencing enough Edmonton winters teaches you the ability to guess at what the mercury is doing outside. In Lake Ontario, Toronto's fish don't guess.

4. Call a government department in Edmonton to complain, and you wade through numerous touch-tone options. Call a similar department in T.O., and a Furby doll answers.

3. Premier Klein negotiates slick city conditions in a Volkswagen. City slicker Ontario Premier Mike Harris looks to Klein for driving lessons to negotiate the Tory bandwagon.

interVue WEEKLY

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THE FRONT



By STEVEN SANDOR
and JOHN TURNER

This week, Vue press-box fixture Steven Sandor returns from his pilgrimage to Maple Leaf Gardens, which he cleverly disguised as a Christmas trip to see Mom and Dad. Upon his return, he told fellow fixture John Turner about how crazy Toronto fans are. To celebrate the end of MLG, the Leafs have printed special commemorative tickets for every game. After each contest, scalpers line Carlton Street to buy the used ticket stubs; going price: \$5-\$10 each. Wow. That's just stupid.

Cujo is confused

Steve: Last week, I had the chance to sit down and chat with Curtis Joseph. He's as dumbfounded as anybody about the Oilers' recent funk. He said the Leafs and Oilers are very similar, except that the Leafs have a level of self-confidence that the Oilers never enjoyed during his time in Edmonton. The Leafs believe in themselves and expect to win; the Oilers are perplexed by success and respond by tanking. The result? The Oilers are once again a .500 team. "We're both good young teams," said Cujo. "I found it easy to adjust because the Leafs use a similar system as the Oilers, one that emphasizes team

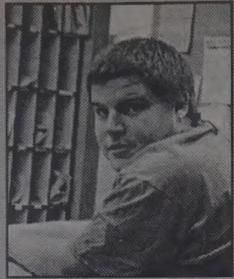
speed. We both pose solid offensive threats. But, as the season goes on, the Leafs have begun to believe in themselves. We believe in ourselves more and more with every game. Now, every night, we expect to win." And even though Cujo wouldn't say it outright, I got the feeling that isn't the case in the Oilers locker room.

John: You know, when I was a kid, all I ever wanted was to be a successful doctor—to be able to help people. I wanted to have a beautiful wife and home, 2.3 kids, the whole package. But I didn't believe in myself. When I told people I wanted to be a doctor, they said "But John, you're too dumb to be a doctor." And about the beautiful wife, they'd say "But John, women just don't dig you."

Steve: Excuse me, I think I'm going to cry.

John: And did I believe them? Damn straight. That's why I'm writing this crummy column, living from paycheque to paycheque. Hey, Oilers, do you want to end up like me? Do you want people to approach you and say: "Hey loser, how's it going?" The Oilers are very talented—just ask any of the hockey writers out East—but they really have to start believing in themselves. They are arguably the fastest-skating team in the NHL and it's tough to watch them play down to another team's level. There were stretches in their game against San Jose that were just painful to watch. Let's hope the win against Vancouver will help their confidence level.

Steve: Another couple of notes from MLG: I caught Dallas's 5-1 demolition of the Buds as well as Phoenix's 5-2 loss. After starting quick, Phoenix is fizzling of late. The reason? Jim Schoenfeld is playing only three lines and four defencemen, which is tiring



the Coyotes out. "Our feet are sore from kicking ourselves in the butts so much," said the frustrated Schoenfeld about Phoenix's latest funk. Dallas has reunited Brett Hull and Mike Modano—and they look simply awesome together, as potent as the Hull/Adam Oates combo in St. Louis, except Modano is a better scorer than Oates, so defenders can't gamble on the pass to Hull every time.

Steven Sandor is the former editor-in-chief of Vue Weekly. He is now a regular music contributor and, along with John Turner, writes the weekly hockey column in the Box.



By RICHARD BURNETT

Heroes and zeroes of 1998

Hero: BC and Nova Scotia, who both extended full pension benefits to gay and lesbian public sector employees last summer.

Zero: Jean Chrétien's Liberal government, which, despite estimates Canada could save billions over the next five years if it invests more in AIDS prevention programs now, has committed a mere \$42.2 million to the National AIDS Strategy annually for the next five years. The Canadian AIDS Society, meanwhile, estimates 5,000 Canadians contracted HIV this year. And that's just a fraction of the 16,000 people the World Health Organization estimates are infected globally each day.

"This virus is a lot smarter than we ever gave it credit for in 1983-84 when it was first discovered," International AIDS Society prez Dr Mark Wainberg, whose Montreal lab isolated and identified 3TC, told me in September. "It continues to mutate in the most amazing and unpredictable ways possible. We have made a lot of progress and we should be thankful for that [but] we haven't turned the corner and there's no reason for anyone to be apathetic."

Zero: Mordecai Richler who, after reading Three Dollar Bill, wrote in *The National Post* to the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association

tion/Canada is "an organization whose time has come, but one, I fear, that discriminates against me and my kind." The NLGJA then issued Richler an honorary membership and a free night of boozing—but only, NLGJA/Canada membership stud Jared Mitchell wrote in a letter to Richler, if the drinks are "made in a blender."

Hero: gays and lesbians in Fredericton and Regina who successfully lobbied their mayors to proclaim Gay Pride Day. "In retrospect, it didn't take me long to realize that my actions were inappropriate, unprofessional and certainly without class and I want to apologize," Fredericton Mayor Brad Woodside said a week after the October 12 lynching of Matt Shepard.

Hero: the Canadian judicial system. Last April, the Canadian Supreme Court ruled against Alberta lawmakers who refused to include sexual orientation in the Alberta Individual's Rights Protection Act; the Ontario Court (General Division) ruled December 8 in favour of redefining "spouse" in the Ontario Pension Benefits Act to include same-sex couples; and the BC Supreme Court which, on December 16, overturned the Surrey School Board's ban on books featuring same-sex parents—*Asba's Mums; One Dad, Two Dads, Brown Dads, Blue Dads; and Belinda's Bouquet*.

Zero: Lucien Bouchard, who on October 21 personally tabled an omnibus bill in Quebec's National Assembly recognizing same-sex couples, pensions, et al. Lulu then called an election, won, then appealed Quebec Superior Court Justice Jacques Vaillancourt's November ruling ordering the province to amend its state pension legislation to include same-sex couples.



Zero: Canadian Olympic figure skating champ Brian Orser, who did everything possible to preserve his closet before being outed in his ex-boyfriend's palimony suit. As opposed to Canadian Olympic swimmer Mark Tewksbury, who this month announced, "For the record, I'm not just gay—I'm a screaming queen!" Tewksbury never came out publicly when—go figure—he was a swimmer or a corporate motivational speaker. But he sure is pushing the right buttons today: "My worlds are finally integrated," he now says. "It's too painful to lead a double or a triple life."

Zero: conservative US journalist David Brock, who wrote the '93 *American Spectator* "Troopergate" article on Paula Jones that precipitated President Clinton's downfall. Brock was then shunned by his conservative cheerleaders after publicly coming out last year. He now convincingly claims his decision has nothing to do with his public apology to Clinton.

Richard Burnett is a regular writer for Montreal's Hour. Three Dollar Bill, Canada's first and only syndicated queer-issues column, reaches over 600,000 readers each week.

MUSIC notes

By GARY MCGOWAN

Sideshow Bob, cover to cover



The role of the cover band in the musical infrastructure is underappreciated. Music-biz glory goes to those original artists and bands who score hits or carve a unique niche in the minds of music fans. Frequently, though, it's cover bands who develop those fans in the first place—well-played and sung cover songs whet the appetite of many a bar patron for the real thing. And more than one cover band has provided a cash refuge for creators of original music who are "between prospects," shall we say. All of which meets with ready agreement from Greg Precha, leader of Edmonton cover band **Sideshow Bob**. "We like playing the stuff that gets people on the dance floor," says Precha. He's pleased with where Sideshow Bob stand at the dawn of 1999. "We're at the point we wanted to be," smiles Precha. "We're well-known in the city, and we're booked for most of 1999." Precha isn't kidding about that latter point. Sideshow Bob will play the **Road House** Friday and Saturday night and, with the exception of a handful of other weekends, will be on somebody's stage every Friday and Saturday between now and the arrival of the next millennium. That would be a tough schedule for any band whose members had day gigs; try it when one of the members has a day job in Vancouver. "Our drummer **Dan Porochiwny** flies in from the coast for every show," says Precha with a touch of amazement in his voice. "He's really committed to the band—although," laughs Precha, "he doesn't make any money out of it." As long as the airlines of the nation keep flying, Sideshow Bob will continue to grace the stages of Edmonton with their mixture of old and new rock (the set list ranges from the *Rolling Stones* to the *Offspring*). And hopefully, after each Sideshow Bob set, one or two of the musically indifferent will find themselves transformed into live music fans.

Mike McDonald had a Jam...



Mike McDonald is still beaming about the Rosebowl Santa's Anonymous Jam he organized in mid-December. "It was our most successful yet," says McDonald. "We beat last year's cash take by \$140

and were able to give Santa's Anonymous \$1,140 cash and two big bags of toys." The show also had some great musical moments for McDonald. "Lester Quitzau and Bill Bourne's outer space version of 'Silent Night' really stood out for me," recalls McDonald. Now that his annual charity fundraiser is done, McDonald is back working on the forthcoming Mike McDonald Band CD. He and engineer Scott Franchuk have finished the disc's bed tracks at the latter's **Riverville Recorders** facility. "For awhile it seemed like we'd never get it done," sighs McDonald. He says he's now experiencing the "usual fears and paranoias" that come with the final stages of completing a recording. "Some days I'm convinced the whole thing is out of tune, and the next day I think it's brilliant," confesses McDonald. The disc bears the working title *Is This Thing On?* The CD's relative tunefulness won't be heard by the music public for awhile. "This is a pay-as-you-go recording," says McDonald. There's still the overdubs, mixing, mastering and manufacturing stages to come on the project. "Just say 'release date unknown,'" sighs McDonald. He does promise that, whenever *Is This Thing On?* is issued, it will be a fun disc. "I'm a record collector myself," says McDonald, "and I'm trying to make a CD that I think would be cool to own if I were buying it." While fans continue to track the progress of the disc, they'll be able to see McDonald play some of those soon-to-be-released songs Saturday afternoon. He'll be performing a solo acoustic show at the **Black Dog Pub** at 3:00 p.m.

Dunn and Dunn



Maria Dunn is looking forward to her turn on the stage of **Festival Place** on Wednesday night. Dunn is appearing in the company of Wendy McNeill and Paul Bromley in the inaugural Festival Place singer-songwriter series that will run in the Sherwood Park soft-seater every Wednesday in January. Dunn is pumped about the show because it's the first time in several months she hasn't been playing and singing Christmas music. Dunn played the key role of *Tiny Tim* in the mid-December run of the *Christmas Carol Project* at **Catalyst Theatre**. Dunn allows that being in the show "was a lot of fun," but adds that "it will be a nice change to not play Christmas songs." What she will play is a 45-minute set largely drawn from her current CD, *From Where I Stand*. The disc was released in October, and Dunn thought she'd tapped her market out by Halloween—until, that is, the week before Christmas. "Apparently, a lot of people had the disc on their Christmas lists," she laughs, "because it started to sell out everywhere. So there I was on Christmas Eve, frantically re-stocking stores." When she's not busy as a one-woman record label, Dunn is contemplating her next career moves. "I'm focusing on out-of-town work in 1999," she says. "I want to play as many folk festivals

and folk clubs outside of Edmonton as I can." Dunn will also be busy with a newly acquired side gig as a member of **Laura Vinson's** band. Vinson tapped Dunn to replace longtime sideman **Charlotte Weibe** in the accordion/flute/miscellaneous instrument chair that's always been a key position in her band. "I'm looking forward to the challenge of fitting into someone else's music," enthuses Dunn. "It'll be fun to just play without having the spotlight falling on me every time out." Dunn, however, will bask in the glow of a warm spotlight Wednesday—the two-hour show with McNeill and Bromley will be a fine opportunity to hear three great Edmonton singer-songwriters in an atmosphere that's conducive to listening.

Let's be Franck

Swing is the thing. Or, at least, it has been the trend du jour in North American pop music in 1998. The sudden surge in interest in this mid-century music form has opened up room for many Edmonton players to indulge themselves in a style they've loved for years. Until 1998, though, they just couldn't find an audience interested in hearing it. Singer/guitarist **Peter Franck** is a good example of the phenomenon. "I've been looking for an excuse to play some jazz and get away with it for a long time," he laughs. Franck has played a couple of stripped-down, swing-style shows at the **Black Dog**'s Saturday afternoon "Hair of the Dog" showcase in the last couple of months. Tuesday night at 9:00 p.m., however, he'll pull out all the stops and bring a big, brassy swing show to the **Sidetrack Café** stage. Franck will be joined by keyboardist **Chris Andrew**, drummer **John Newton**, the Berner brothers (**Doug** on bass and **Don** on saxophone) and **J.C. Jones** on trombone. "This is the first time this band has performed live," enthuses Franck, "and we're putting on a show that should appeal to a wide demographic." The evening will be heavy on **Frank Sinatra** songs—although, Franck is quick to point out, it isn't a tribute night. "It's just a fun project that everyone from kids to grandparents should enjoy." Zoot suits are optional.



Gary McGowan is a regular Music Notes columnist for Vue Weekly.



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By CAM HAYDEN

Best blues of '98

I know. If everyone else were jumping off the High Level Bridge, does that mean you have to, too? It's that time of the year when we take time to look back on the year that was. Now, a lot of writers and other pundits will no doubt be making their top ten lists, organizing the entries under "Best Performance" or "Biggest Crowd" or "Most Notes Played in a Guitar Solo." Well, I have my own system too.

Best Living Legend Show—**B.B. King** at the Jubilee Auditorium. The man is without a doubt the best-known name in the blues today. His popularity effortlessly crosses the borders of rock, pop, soul and jazz. He and his crack band served up the goods to an appreciative sold-out house. The B.B. King band is on the road for over 200 dates a year, and it shows. Tight, polished and still full of the joy that can be part of the blues, this group left the audience begging for more after their two-hour-plus show. B.B. is also the consummate ambassador for the blues. Word has it that he spent well over an hour backstage after the show talking to people and signing autographs.

Best Show I Might Not Have Seen Unless Someone Tipped Me to It—**Johnny Bassett and the Blues Insurgents** played as an opener for one of the Jazz City Cabaret shows at the Westin Hotel. Johnny is from Detroit, has been on the scene there for over 30 years, and brought with him a slick urban blues show filled with great original songs and

superb playing. I had never heard of him until Taras Ostashewsky from Jazz City told me about him and convinced me to go. I'm a convert and heartily recommend Johnny's disc *Cadillac Blues*. Thanks, Taras.

Best Other Show at Jazz City—No contest. **Roomful of Blues** has undergone incredible personnel changes over the years and in the process has served as a proving ground for some of the best players and singers around today—Duke Robillard, to name but one. This version of the band included some new faces, but its sound was as cohesive, compelling, and tight as any I've ever heard.

Best Of the Folk Festival—On mainstage it had to be **Buckwheat Zydeco** on Friday night; but the Folk Festival's real strength is its ability to put together an assortment of compatible artists, and then step back and let the magic happen. Magic moments for me included the gospel workshop with Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir working with the Holmes Brothers and Sweet Honey in the Rock; Martin Simpson, Alvin Youngblood Hart, Chris Smither and Ray Bonneville swapping songs on Saturday afternoon; and Mike Henderson of the Dead Reckoners cranking it up with Big Dave McLean, Amos Garrett and Alvin Hart on Stage One Sunday afternoon.

Best Show On A Boat—**Chubby Carrier and the Bayou Swamp Band** played two nights on the Edmonton Queen. It was early in the week, so attendance was not what it should have, or could have, been, but the people who were there were treated to a show by the "next big thing" in zydeco music. Clifton Chenier first melded Cajun, blues, and New Orleans soul to make zydeco, Buckwheat Zydeco perfected the sound, and now Chubby is taking the music to new places, adding a dose of high-energy funk



and rock that fills dance floors with happy, sweaty people. "Et Toi!"

Best Surprise—**Studebaker John and the Hawks** at the Side-track Café. Maybe the best show I saw all year. I'd heard John on disc, but his live show was unbelievable. Tight, original and showing an awesome depth of musical understanding, John sang a pack of self-penned tunes, played slide and regular guitars, and blew a mean harp, all accompanied by his crack band. If this outfit comes back to Edmonton, run—do not walk—to the nearest ticket outlet.

Best Locals—We all had the many opportunities this past year to see some of the best our local scene has to offer. In my opinion, there are a few groups in Edmonton capable of headlining anywhere on the continent, or anywhere else for that matter. Make sure you support any of **Mark Sterling's** groups, **Hot Cottage**, particularly with the "Craft Horn Section," and, of course, **The Rockin' Highliners**.

There you go. That's what I recall as the best of the year. Your list may differ, but I hope you have one. Remember, support live music or it won't be around for you to appreciate. See you at the clubs and concerts.

Along with his duties as Vue Weekly's blues columnist, Cam Hayden hosts the Friday Night Blues Party from 9 p.m. to midnight and Alberta Morning from 6 to 9 a.m. weekdays on the CKUA Radio Network, 580 AM and 94.9 FM.

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Top ten singles of 1998

By SANDRA SPEROUNES

What a disappointing year in music—for North American bands

Except for the Beastie Boys, no one released a stellar disc and the charts were cluttered with uninspiring singles from a host of perplexingly famous bands. Why Matchbox 20, Third Eye Blind, the Goo Goo Dolls and Marcy Playground even have record deals is beyond me. I'd rather listen to the Spice Girls and Marilyn Manson before hearing "3 A.M." or "Sex and Candy"—two songs which make me want to do the very opposite of romping around into the wee hours of the morning.

If you ask me, the real musical action was to be found in Europe. And not just England. Catatonia, a band from lowly Wales, released a collection of songs even better than anything from Radiohead, Pulp or Blur. The French weighed in with Air and Zazie. And the Germans, believe it or not, have such a vibrant rap, punk and electronic music scene these days, it's a shame that all we're hearing is the tired industrial drones of Rammstein. If you've got the curiosity and the cash, check out rappers Such A Surge or Sabrina Setlur and punk bands Guano Apes and Die Arz; their stuff is available at Planetlaser.

If I had my way, my Top 10 list of singles would be littered with songs by these unknown European musicians. Instead, I've doctored my list somewhat for Vue:



1. This one's a toss-up between four songs, all from the **Beastie Boys'** *Hello Nasty*. There's "The Move," "Remote Control," "Song for the Man," and "Intergalactic." Don't ask me to choose from among these four—I believe me, I've tried, and each time I pick a different one.

2. "Raspberry Swirl" by Tori Amos. Forget Jewel: this pounding, body-tinkling dance track is the real gem.

3. "Jetzt ist gut" by Such A Surge, or directly translated, "Now is good." And so is this song by a German quintet of rappers—even my mother likes it! Who cares if they're rapping in German? Honestly, how much of the Beastie Boys or Ice Cube can you understand?

4. "Wisdom" by the Brian Jonestown Massacre. Originally released a few years ago, Anton Newcombe re-recorded it this year for the band's debut on T.V.T., *Strung Out In Heaven*. A droney, melancholy, shoe-gazing number. Great to listen to after a sexually frustrating night at the pub.

5. "Dope Show" by Marilyn Manson. As much as it hurts me to admit it, this is an amazing song.



even if it does sound like a Bauhaus knock-off.

6. "Open Your Eyes" by the Guano Apes. A high-energy punk rock tune by one of the best new groups in Germany. I'm convinced this would be an instant hit in North America—not only is the lead singer a chick, but she also sings in English.

7. "Road Rage" by Catatonia. A haunting, angst-ridden track.

8. "Karma Police" by Radiohead. Any song with the lyrics "Hitler hair-do" has my vote.

9. "It's Like That" by Run DMC vs. Jason Nevins. Geez, three rap songs in my top 10 list? What's happening to me?

10. "Cracking Up" by Jesus and Mary Chain. Overall, their new disc was a major letdown, but this is a classic self-deprecating J.M.C. tune with an awesome bass line. Let's just hope 1999 is a year for more awesome tunes—otherwise I'll be cracking up.

Top ten (and bottom two) CDs of '98

By STEVEN SANDOR

Boy, was it ever hard to compile a list this year. 1998 was easily the worst year for new releases in all the years I've been a music journalist. Month after month, Vue's new-release holding pen has reeked like the shitter. Really, this is almost a top ten list by default. Most years, I think of about 25 albums right off the bat and have to whittle it down. This year, I actually had to go back through my CD rack, hoping to jog my memory enough to come up with even ten entries.

1. **Son Volt, Wide Swing Tremolo (WEA)**—Jay Farrar's best effort since his Uncle Tupelo days. The album starts off with the surprising chord-rocker "Straightface," then kicks in with the super-melodic "Driving the View" and "Medicine Hat." The second half of the album sees Farrar and company experiment with instruments like the dulcimer and the chamberlain, which gives those tracks a haunting, mournful feel. An album about loss that can somehow elate you.

2. **The Pernice Brothers, Overcome By Happiness (Sub Pop)**—Joe Pernice sheds his Scud Mountain Boys country roots and writes a

huge, joyous pop record, with a multi-piece orchestra in tow. One catch—all those happy songs aren't happy at all. Pernice's lyrics still manage to depress the hell out of you, but the music belies their downbeat tone. A scarily good juxtaposition.

3. **Sloan, Navy Blues (murderecords/Universal)**—Halifax's pop poster boys showed they have a sense of humour by recording an album so immersed in 70s style, you'd swear your pants had sprouted bell bottoms. Songs like "Chester the Molester" and "Iggy & Angus" made you pine for the rollerskating palace, while "Money City Maniacs" was the ballsiest rock tour de force of the year.

4. **Air, Moon Safari (Virgin)**—This French duo's North American debut was hailed as the make-out album of the year. Since I didn't make out with anyone while this CD was playing (but God knows I tried), I won't make the same claim. *Moon Safari* features an abundance of lush instrumentals and cheesy French-pop vocals. But it works. And I could listen to "Kelly Watch the Stars" over and over again.

5. **Swervedriver, 99th Dream (Zero Hour)**—One of the loudest British bands from the shoegazing era returns from musical limbo with this effort. Big, sweeping guitar bits reminded me that I was indeed still in possession of my abdomen. Swervedriver can write killer guitar hooks and dress them up enough to make you think they're the work of something more than a simple rock band.

6. **King Missile III, Failure (Shimmy Disc)**—John S. Hall's latest lyrical rants show that he has an anal

fixation. "Up My Ass" sounds so much better after you've smoked a pipe or two, so be my guest; "Gay/Not Gay" is Hall's twisted dissertation on what makes you queer or not. Songs about dildos, assholes and blowjobs fill this effort, and it's all so...well...funny.

7. **Public Enemy, He Got Game (PolyGram)**—We had all left Public

Enemy, the greatest rap band ever, for dead. Then, they hit us with this soundtrack, which borrows heavily from '70s soul. (Actually, *Soul Train* is the disc's main reference point.) *He Got Game* reinforced Public Enemy's rep as the best ever—and guest appearances by the likes of KRS-One and Masta Killah only served to improve the mix. Flavor Flav's "Shake Your Booty" was the best dance groove of the year.

8. **Grasshopper and the Golden Crickets, The Orbit of Eternal Grace (Beggars Banquet)**—Mercury Rev's Sean Mackowiak, better known as Grasshopper, creates a childlike, playful album that manages to sound artsy without being pretentious. Grasshopper experiments with heavy rock and electronics,

styles that Mercury Rev haven't gone near in ages. While still owing a lot to jazz, Mackowiak offers more structure than he has in his past work—and it's a successful change.

9. **Mudhoney, Tomorrow Hit Today (WEA)**—The best band Seattle ever spawned returns to play grunge long after grunge is dead. But excellent productions and a great series of songs make this effort worthwhile. Guitarists Mark Arm and Steve Turner turn down the metal and turn up the blues, making for something very different than we've grown to expect from Mudhoney.

10. **Richard Buckner, Since (Universal)**—It really amazes me how much I've grown to enjoy Richard Buckner's music, and how much he improves as a songwriter every time he releases a new record. I wasn't that big on Buckner when he started out, but *Since* is an odd yet enchanting effort that only gets better with repeated listens.

Biggest disappointments of '98

As I wrote earlier, '98 was a dismal

year for new music. Disappointing album followed disappointing album. But here's two artists who let me down the most—and who haven't let me down before. I didn't bother listing crap like Michael Bolton, because you expect him to suck.

1. **Jon Spencer Blues Explosion, Acme (Matador)**—Ever since his days with Pussy Galore, I've loved the work of the eccentric Jon Spencer. Until now. With *Acme*, Spencer tries to recapture the magic of *Orange*, the album which successfully mixed his guitar wails and rants with some def New York beats. For *Acme*, Spencer drafted a slew of successful producers and remix artists, from Steve Albini to Beat Happening's Calvin Johnson. Except he forgot one thing: Spencer spent all of his good songs on '97's excellent *Now I Got Worry*. What's left is a disjointed album that struggles to reach a high point. Buy the single for "Talk About the Blues" instead. The B-side "Bacon" is the

Best discs

continues on page 15 ▶

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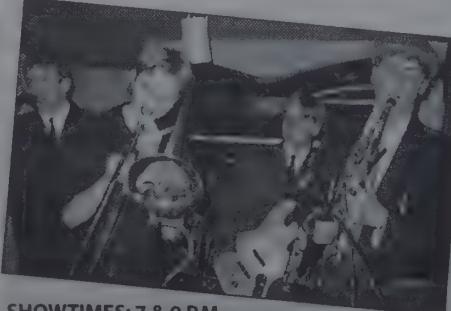
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Welcome to their world, a world of organically-rooted power pop music with clever and urbane lyrics, an eclectic sound that features a large amount of eccentricity. Welcome's brand of esoteric yet dancey music has gained the band devoted audiences and critical acclaim. Welcome has a self-titled CD out, and is currently working on a second.



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SHOWTIMES: 7 & 9 P.M.



The Clones is a blend of traditional and contemporary ska music.

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4pm - Midnite

Med. 2-Topping Pizza:

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Win Prizes!**

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Gigs big and small enlivened 1998

The year's nine best live performances

By GARY McGOWAN

To paraphrase the Rolling Stones, you can't always see what you want, but if you try sometimes, you see what you need. The Stones weren't in Edmonton in 1998, but a range of acts did make an impression on E-town in the last twelve months. Here's a sampling of both the good and the bad.

1. Our Lady Peace (SkyReach Centre, January 23)—It's fashionable to pooh-pooh this group as a Smashing Pumpkins knock-off, but without much of an international buzz OLP sold over 12,000 tickets to this show. They're the first Canadian band since the Tragically Hip to achieve those kinds of concert attendance numbers on

home turf. Good on ya.

2. Goldfinger (Rebar, January 27)—This band played 382 shows in 365 days in 1996. Their obvious love for the stage translated into a tight performance of their skinned pop/punk to a sold-out second floor at Rebar in Old Strathcona. Lead singer John Feldman is a rock-star-in-waiting. When he looked deep into the crowd at the midpoint of the show and said, "You know I love you and I promise I'll call," you just knew you were watching a band bound for bigger stages.

3. Mighty Mighty Bosstones (Dinwoodie Lounge, March 13)—Was this show fun or what? Crowd surfing, stage diving and mucho crowd interaction with Bosstones lead singer Dickey Barrett. It was everything a live show should be.

4. Dave Matthews Band (Winspear Centre, May 11)—They may have sold millions of CDs, but

Matthews is still a taste these ears haven't acquired. Still, there's no denying the commitment Mr. Dave brings to his material, and his bandmates are stellar players. And for once, the Winspear didn't seem to intimidate the fans.

5. Jerry Lee Lewis (Red's, May 29)—Of course, he doesn't jump all over the piano stool or set the thing on fire anymore. Jerry Lee Lewis is wazzy over 60, and he's had half his stomach removed (which tends to slow a guy down a bit). But, when he sat down at the piano and cranked out the hits ("Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On") or obscure '50s southern rock gems (Charlie Rich's "Lonely Weekend"), everyone quickly understood why he became a star. There's an attitude and intensity about the man that defies his age and defines rock 'n' roll music. The added bonus of having one of the great unsung guitarists in rock in the band, former Rick Nelson and Elvis Presley sideman James Burton, didn't hurt a short-but-sweet night either.

6. Bacon Brothers (Planet Hollywood, June 27)—The show wasn't so much on the stage as off. Yes, Kevin Bacon is a passable singer. No, the Bacon Brothers would never have commanded much attention solely because on their music. (They do this cheesy song about a dog that...well, buy the CD.) But the audience...Rarely have local door people dealt with that kind of pressure to crash a show. Kevin Bacon is a movie star, for gawd sakes, and there he was on display for over two hours. The

stock in many of the city's lingerie shops was depleted that Saturday, and quite a few nervous boyfriends breathed a sigh of relief when Bacon disappeared into the Planet Hollywood kitchen for the final time.

7. EdgeFest (Commonwealth Stadium, July 8)—More specifically, Green Day at Edgefest. Billy Joe Armstrong delivered a tour de force, punk-on-speed performance that had the stadium eating out of his hand by set's end. Boy, has Green Day gotten comfortable on big stages since their hesitant Coliseum show in 1995. Sympathies to Tea Party for having to follow that performance.

8. Lilith Fair (Commonwealth Stadium, August 29)—Proof positive that you should never underestimate your market. Sure, Lilith did multiple nights in those big American markets like Detroit when powerhouse talent such as Bonnie Raitt was on the bill. But Edmonton got Anjelique Kidjo at 8:00 p.m. on the main stage. A fine talent, but not exactly marquee power. Sarah McLachlan and the festival name inspired barely 13,000 to buy tickets. The market spoke.

9. Misfits (Polish Hall, September 18)—Wow! Pyro in the Polish Hall. It couldn't get much better than this for the Misfits fans who'd waited years for this band to come to Edmonton. It's easy to see why Metallica cite these guys as a major influence. Too band the circuit breakers shut down on a couple of occasions. Guess the show just rocked too hard. ☀

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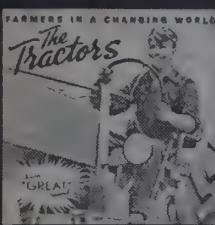
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MUSIC

Vue discovery



The Tractors Farmers in A Changing World (BMG/ARISTA NASHVILLE)

Like Popeye's Spinach, the Tractors' name is something that'll make you hit yourself and say "I'll be damned! Why the hell didn't I think of that?" Yes, the Tractors, owners of the best country band name that inexpressibly doesn't seem to have been used already by someone else, are a true breath of fresh country air, outcasts in a musical style that has closed ranks of late.

As America's political right finds its voice, country music's mindset seems to have slipped into Norman Rockwell mode. The image of the hard-livin' shucker is pretty much a thing of the past, but the Tractors capitalize on it with aplomb.

Farmers... boasts a clever, playful set of original songs that rely on charm, wit and a single, almost inscrutable truthfulness that wends its way through the album the way the big tick-tocks pass over cuts through the South—the South, ah well.

"Wouldn't Tell No Lies" opens the album with a celebration of being a lying skunk (I got all wells from Texas) all the way to the Middle East.

Every time they sing a "Carry off" I get a piece," Linda Lou ("Yodel love / Yodel Yodel Linda Lou") and "Poor Boy Shufflin'" feature the great Bonnie Raitt, who adds some sweet slide guitar.

But the serious highlight has to be "The Elvis Thing," which guest stars the *Velvet* original-looking band James Burton on guitar, Scotty Moore on bass and D.J. Fontana on drums.

Farmers In A Changing World is pretty old school high vocal harmonies, clean steel guitars, mandolin and piano, swaying on a field gear, don't run if fingerlickin' Nashville country or a sort they don't make much of in Nashville these days. I think they're all too busy following the fortunes of that daburn hockey team off-field.

T.C. Shaw

New Sounds

This week's newest discs

Chris Fortier *Atmospherics: The Breaks* (STREETBEAT/FADE)

I read an interesting article a while ago about the future application of computer animation technology. The animators themselves believe that one day, animated characters will be so convincing that the viewer will be unable to tell the difference between the pixels and the real thing. The idea seems a bit far-fetched, but we can certainly see the beginnings of this trend in *Tech's Reboot* and films like *Toy Story* and *Terminator 2*.

Imagine the precision of computer-generated images, and you'll have an idea of the sound of Chris Fortier's music. It's difficult to believe that such a seamless arrangement of music could come from the hand of man. Fortier is a much-in-demand DJ all over North America who has toured with the likes of Sasha and Digweed, but this isn't a house album for the house. Instead, he offers a surreal trip you can take on your couch or in a fast car on an open highway. A great offering of constant yet not overpowering beats punctuated with female vocals make this a terrific ride.

Fortier is from Florida, a piece of information that somehow made me think of Miami Vice. Crockett and Tubbs may have cruised the interstate cracking cokeheads while listening to Phil Collins, but my guess is, they would have been more comfortable with this album. Alas, Fortier is truly ahead of his time.

Matt Bromley

Second Coming Self-titled (CAPITOL/EMI)

I have only two things to say about the group Second Coming: they are a good band with attitude and drive, and they are about four years too late to make it big.

This band has all the earmarks of a great act, but they've missed the boat as far as their genre goes. Lead singer Travis Bracht growls and yells his introspective lyrics in perfect grunge style, sort of like a cross between Alice in Chains' Layne Staley and the Tea Party's Jeff Martin. Their sound is well-produced, but very derivative of Alice and Stone Temple Pilots. Trouble is, that music has pretty much gone the way of the dodo, with the main leaders of the genre either disbanded or pursuing individual projects in a market saturated with techno-goth groups and the like. It'll be a few years yet before the public waxes nostalgic.

Ken Eisner

Top ten postmodern pop discs of 1998

By T.C. SHAW

1. The Smugglers, *Buddy Holly Convention EP* (Lookout!/Mint)
2. Noise Therapy, *Myton Lowrider* (A&M)
3. The New Meanies, *Three Seeds* (Virgin)
4. Massive Attack, *Mezzanine* (Circa/Virgin)
5. 54-40, *Since When* (Sony Music)
6. Swervedriver, *99th Dream* (Zero Hour)
7. Bill Nelson, *Atom Shop* (Discipline Global Mobile)
8. Jon Spencer Blues Explosion, *Acme* (Matador)
9. Liz Phair, *whitechocolate-spaceegg* (Matador)
10. Jeff Buckley, *Sketches for My Sweetheart the Drunk* (Columbia)

...and eight others that could've been among the first ten:

11. Ben Folds Five, *Naked Baby Photos* (Caroline)
12. Bill Bourne, *Sally's Dream*

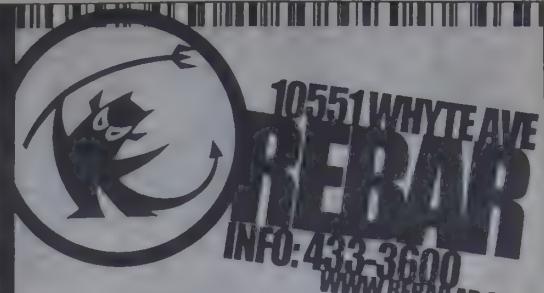


(Ragged Pup)

13. Paul "Wine" Jones, *Mule* (Fat Possum/Epitaph)
14. Beck, *Mutations* (DGC)
15. Hole, *Celebrity Skin* (Geffen/Universal)
16. Bob Dylan, *Live 1966 Royal Albert Hall Concert* (Columbia)
17. Dr. Didig, *Seratonality* (Rykodisc)
18. Groovy Religion, *Canadabiosis: 11 Beat Group Numbers* (Handsome Boy)

Happy New Year everybody, and thanks for reading us throughout 1998!

T.C. Shaw is a regular disc reviewer for Vue Weekly.



FRIDAY

UPSTAIRS:

OPEN TABLE FRIDAYS
DJ Davey James & Code Red present
RENEGADE RECOVERY NIGHT

DOWNTAIRS:

MIKEE spins techno/rock/alt/etc.

01

SATURDAY

UPSTAIRS:

OPEN TABLE SATURDAYS
DJ Davey James presents
THE AFTER PARTY

DOWNTAIRS:

MIKEE techno/house/rock/etc.

02

SUNDAY

DOWNTAIRS:

BIG DADA SPINS ALTERNATIVE
\$1.75 pints 'till 10:30 pm

03

MONDAY

DOWNTAIRS:

CHUCK ROCK spins your requests
\$7 jugs 'till 10:30 pm / \$1.50 Hiballs 'till Midnight

04

TUESDAY

DOWNTAIRS:

CHUCK ROCK spins swing, ska & punk
Happy Hour 'till Midnight

05

WEDNESDAY

DOWNTAIRS:

BIG DADA SPINS ALTERNATIVE
\$2.25 draft 'till midnight

06

THURSDAY

DOWNTAIRS: HARD TIMES

DAVEY JAMES & CODE RED

UPSTAIRS: GOOD TIMES

MIKEE spins classics

07

Best discs

continued from page 13

best thing that came out of the *Acme* sessions, and it didn't make it onto the album.

2. Beastie Boys, Hello Nasty (Grand Royal/EMI)—After spending most of the '90s as the most influential trip in rap (and, it could be argued, almost the entire music biz), Messrs. Adam Yauch, Michael Diamond and Adam Horowitz rested on their laurels instead of moving forward. *Hello Nasty* focuses on simple synth sounds and it all sounds too much like a remix of the lead single, "Intergalactic," which you've all heard to death. The innovation isn't there this time around. Oh well. We can't expect the Beastie Boys to be geniuses every time, can we?

Steven Sandor is the former editor in-chief of Vue Weekly. He is now a regular music contributor and hockey columnist.

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MUSIC • THE ARTS

all that jazz

By PETER NORTH

1998: Now you has jazz

Here's a short list of memorable albums and shows that this observer was (in most cases) fortunate enough to take in last year. I think you'll agree: '98 was a very good year.

1. The "did everyone get there money's worth?" category goes to **David Sanchez**. The young tenor player from Cuba rolled into town for the first time during Jazz City, but a lot of favourable buzz preceding his show in the Marlboro Room. The buzz afterward was even louder as he and his killer band played for over three hours, continually upping the ante as the evening progressed. His Branford Marsalis-produced disc *Obsession* deserves investigation from anyone who hasn't heard it.

2. Duo Disc of the Year goes to pianist **Fred Hersch** and guitarist **Bill Frisell**. These are two of the most open-minded, educated and creative individuals in music today, and they prove it on the Nonesuch release *Songs We Know*.

3. Contrasting shows of the year had to be **Colin James and the Little Big Band** at Jazz City at the Winspear and Boston's **Roomful of Blues**, who performed two nights later at the Westin Ballroom. It was like going from the high school prom to a master class in jump blues dynamics and arranging. When is James going to grow up and turn down?

4. The biggest surprise of the year, for me, was delivered by Toronto singer **Shirley Eikhald**. Renowned as a world-class pop songwriter, Eikhald did a 180, signing with Blue Note and lading out some fabulous jazz-inspired material on her album *Going Home*.

5. The Can't I Just Have The Money and Leave Now award goes to **Diana Krall**, who looked as though she might fall asleep at the piano in the Winspear. Thankfully, guitarist **Russell Malone**, who put out a fine disc this year in *Sweet Georgia Peach* (Impulse!), made the set worth sticking around for.

6. Reissue of the Year (box set division) was the six-CD *The Complete Columbia Studio Recordings/The Miles Davis Quintet*. Davis, Wayne Shorter, Ron Carter, Herbie Hancock and Tony Williams seem connected by telepathic waves; their music continues to be awe-inspiring even thirty years later.

7. Best big band in a small room show: the highly-touted 17-piece band led by genius Swiss arranger **George Gruntz**, whose show was fulfilling on so many levels. The music may have been out there at times but was never inaccessible. Highlights included Swiss drummer/composer **Rafael Wolf**, who's something like 16 years of age; veteran American players **Dave Bargeron** (trombone) and **Howard Johnson** (tuba); and Turkish oud player **Burhan Ocal**. An exciting and possibly once-in-a-lifetime listening experience.

8. Local CD release of the year: **Jim Brennan**, the tenor saxophonist who teaches college up at Ft. McMurray produced a serious winner with a debut disc that also features the talents of pianist **Chris Andrew**. Just how long can Brennan live that far away from a major scene?

9. Reissue of the year (Edmonton division): This distinction goes to the spirited release *Rosewood* (Legacy) which was the first major label album for the late, great trumpeter **Woody Shaw**. A killer ensemble including Clint Houston, Gary Bartz, Victor Lewis, Joe Henderson and Larry Willis, contributes material that simply smokes. So who from this city showed up on this set, recorded in New York City in '77? Vocalist **Judy Singh**.

10. Too bad it didn't work out but it's not a big surprise—that sums up the story of **Don Johnson's**



Piano Bar on The Boardwalk. The basement room looks and feels great with its brick walls, good sight lines and sizable performance area. A gig last June featuring ex-Edmonton drummer **Owen Howard**, who now lives in New York, was one of the most memorable shows of the year. It was also a good idea to invite **Bill Jamieson** to front **The Ubiquitous Orchestra** and other ensembles in the room on a weekly basis but the venture needed an additional blues and maybe even folk component to build up a steady clientele.

Finally, here's some other '98 albums that deserve a mention: Michael Brecker, *Two Blocks From The Edge* (Impulse!); Tom Harrell, *The Art of Rhythm* (BMG); Martin, Turcotte, Haynes, *Get Together Weather* (CBC/Page); Pharoah Sanders, *Jewels of Thought* (Impulse! Reissue); Dave Brubeck Quartet, *Buried Treasure* (Columbia/Legacy); Arturo Sandoval, *Hot House* (Encoded Music/Attic); Fritz Renold & The Bostonian Friends, *Starlight* (Columbia); Charles Mingus, *The Complete 1959 Recordings* (Columbia Reissue); Benny Goodman, *The Complete RCA Small Group Recordings* (BMG); Joshua Redman, *Timeless Tales (for changing times)* (Warner); Chet Baker, *Chet Baker and Strings* (Columbia Reissue); James Carter, *In Carterian Fashion* (Atlantic); Elvin Jones/Jimmy Garrison Sextet, *Illumination* (Impulse! reissue). ☀

Peter North is a regular jazz columnist for Vue Weekly and a country-music writer for The Edmonton Journal.

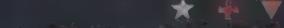
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KNOCK OUT COMEDY



Canvassing the year in visual arts

By DANIELLE ZYP

Once again, it's that time when we look back and reflect on the year behind us. The visual arts community in Edmonton continues to mount memorable exhibitions, raise society's awareness of important issues and simply contribute to the quality of life in the city. Edmonton's visual artists have explored topics as diverse as spirituality and poverty, the pain of dying and the joy of living, always giving valuable insight to the viewer.

Judgment of art is a very subjective matter—therefore, instead of selecting the ten best exhibits of 1998, I've decided instead to list what I think were the ten most memorable events that I attended. They are in no particular order.

1. **ManWoman** at Latitude 53—To celebrate their 25th birthday, Latitude threw several birthday parties. Most notably, they brought back an artist who was one of the first ever to show at the gallery: The space was packed to the rafters with people, art, musicians and some guests even dressed up as the Sisters of Mercy and other characters created by **ManWoman**.

visual arts

2. **The Works: A Visual Arts Celebration**—The largest festival of its kind in North America, The Works opened the eyes of locals and visitors alike with the theme "Create Your World." Kids in particular got creative at Sir Winston Churchill Park.

3. Tim Mara at FAB—

A poignant retrospective of the artist's work and that of a select group of students, this exhibition sadly celebrated the legacy of this talented artist shortly after his sudden and premature passing.

4. **Beauty and the Banal** at the Edmonton Art Gallery—Inspirational and inventive, you can still catch this fun and quirky show of Alberta artists through January 1999.

5. **Artist Model Direct** at Profiles Gallery—Direct from the studio to the gallery wall, this raw and unframed display of nudes explored the process of figurative art making.

6. **Edmonton Contemporary Arts Society Annual Exhibition** at the Arts Barns—A collective of like-minded artists who believe in art for art's sake, ECAS filled the space with spirit at this presentation of recently created abstract work.

7. **Big Sex** at Manifesto Culture Counter—A group show that celebrated sex, one of North America's



favourite obsessions, with passion and a touch of genius.

8. **Whyte Avenue Artwalk**—The weather was beautiful for this weekend of artists in action, painting and sculpting creating art right on the sidewalks of what is sometimes called Edmonton's Left Bank.

9. **Bryn Murray** at NextFest—The painterly brushstrokes and varied palette of Bryn Murray's large-scale self-portrait dominated the scene at this festival of the arts.

10. **Art From the Unknown** at the Arts Barns—Organized by NDP MLA Raj Pannu's office, this celebration of community provides a voice for the marginalized in our society. This year it featured the undiscovered works of more than eighty low-income artists, many of whom suffer from physical and mental disabilities. ☀

Danielle Zyp is the visual arts contributing editor of Vue Weekly.

Top ten theatre events of 1998

By ARAXI ARSLANIAN

1. Ecstasy—Keith Wyatt's turbo-charged interpretation of Irvine Welsh's book was the talk of the '98 Fringe. As directed by Sandra M. Nicholls, this innovative piece of theatre was pure flame from beginning to end. Features included original music by DJ Cory Payne, a cast of spicy new talent, the incredible use of the Rev's darkest corners, and yes... Wyatt's... er... full-frontal gifts. Superb!

2. Loud and Queer—Moved to the Third Space at Workshop West, this two-night KO served up a hot combination of Edmonton's lesbian artists. Roger Schultz's tangerine-tuxedoed Helen Reddy send-up held an enthralled crowd in stitches for twenty minutes straight.

3. Tales From The Hospital—The Unconscious Collective scored a major artistic triumph with this Sterling-nominated show. Trevor Schmidt's four monologues employed the ominous space of the Arts Barns with creepy craftsmanship. Angela Flatekval's dark por-

trayal of a megalomaniac kept audiences rapt.

4. Songs For Sinners—This production was as much a feast for the eyes as for the soul. The script, a prairie grotesque experiment, didn't give all the answers, but reverberated with questions on the nature of beauty, art, and the human condition. Paul Morgan Donald's sensational music was a cherished highlight.

5. Too Bad She's a Big Ol' Slut—As with *Ecstasy*, this Fringe stunner boasted a group of feisty independents using a non-traditional theatre space with panache. With a rare combination of across-the-board talent in singing, acting, and breathtaking ballroom dancing, this show proved to Edmonton audiences that triple-threat talent is not only possible, but alive and well. Caroline Livingstone's over-the-top ballroom maven wore kitsch like a crown of jewels.

6. A Delicate Balance—Call her Mrs. King of Kensington, but Fiona Reid knocked Citadel patrons dead with her boozing, darkly comic per-

formance in this Edward Albee play. She danced the line of pathos and comedy like a prima ballerina, and kept us begging for more.

7. Next Generation Arts Festival—A much-needed outlet for the twenty-somethings drowning in the Boomer tide, the festival came into its own this year. With a refined roster of new talent, an extended youth outreach program, and crisp-and-clean production values, the Next Fest gave Etown up-and-comers a chance to sink their teeth into the professional pile. Thanks to Keath Thome's heart-thumping, dynamic movement/dance piece, the Fest took its first steps with a dazzling start this year.

8. Mojo—Testosterone-filled, mercurial, and fiendishly funny, this is the hit play by Jez Butterworth that every white boy in town wanted in on. A deftly selected cast of young studlerinos kept this gun-totting ride going from beginning to end. Sadly, it suffered from poor marketing, and failed to target the appropriate demographic. But for those of you who did buy tickets

for this roller-coaster, you'll agree that Ron Jenkins's smoldering intensity and Christopher Bulloch's hideously comic death scene were highlights.

9. The NLT AD Cabaret—Under the capable hands of Trevor Schmidt and Glenda Stirling, this so-so evening of fun-poking was transformed into a biting, naughty yank in the pants for an Edmonton theatre community that takes itself far too seriously. Tongue-in-cheek, razor-sharp parody, and a no-holds-barred attitude kept this event from fizzling. Unfortunately, a lack of community spirit kept attendance low. That's everyone's loss, as Citadel grand poobah Duncan McIntosh's unabashed auto-parody had them rolling in the aisles.

10. Die-Nasty—No "Best Of" list would be complete without this impish weekly show. Featuring some of Edmonton's most notable talents, this improvised soap opera has caused more than a few hernias with its ingenuity, precocity, and brazen-



ness. Boasting a cast of characters that runs from kitschy to sublime, the Varscona Theatre has some serious bragging rights for this or any season. A recent highlight? Tom Edwards's quasi-nude cowboy-savant. (I did start the list by mentioning a fabulous naked fellow. It's only fitting that I just cap it off with one.) Fine style!

Araxi Arslanian has been a regular theatre writer and *Theatre Notes* columnist for Vue Weekly since its debut. She has recently moved to Toronto—her contributions (as well as her booming baritone at *The Next Act*) will be sorely missed.

Top and bottom ten movies of 1998

By RUSSELL MULVEY

Top Ten

1. Sick: The Life and Death of Bob Flanagan, Supermasochist—This is the only documentary to make the cut this year, and it is an unflinching, touching look at a man who accomplished some incredible things during his life, not the least of which was living some 20 years longer than anybody thought he would. It is provocative, extreme and graphic. Make that really graphic—but with an honesty that makes it special.

2. Maborosi—Describing this film as beautiful seems trite, but the written word is inadequate when it comes to the feature film debut of Hirokazu Kore-eda. His film is the story of the grief of a young woman told primarily through imagery and sublime composition. Think of what you see in your mind's eye when you listen to your favourite poetry and you'll get an idea of what watching this movie is like.

3. He Got Game—Spike Lee at his very best. This small film about a father and a son manages to capture the importance of those relationships while also portraying the world of college basketball in all its slimy glory. And, just for good measure, it also manages to be a very Christian story of forgiveness. This is easily the best acting job that Denzel Washington has ever done.

4. A Taste of Cherry—A solitary man contemplating suicide drives through the outskirts of Tehran looking for someone to bury him. Abbas Kiarostami may be the world's greatest active filmmaker. His previous films, which include *Life Goes On* and *Through the Olive Trees*, were expressions of joyful creativity from one of the oldest cultures extant. *A Taste of Cherry* is a celebration of living.

5. The Spanish Prisoner—Many reviewers disliked this film for no other reason except it obligated them to pay attention all the way through. David Mamet is primarily known as a writer, but he has also directed a number of his own

screenplays. This film is complex and requires you to pay close attention. The dialogue, as in all of Mamet's writing, is what really makes this special.

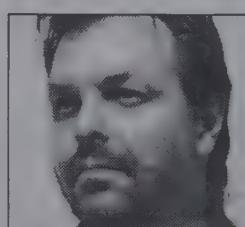
6. The Big Lebowski—The Coen Brothers...what can I say? I was not too enamoured of this film when I first saw it, but parts of it really stuck with me and so I rented it on video. This second viewing inspired me to include it on my ten best list. This is a complex film with some very subtle humour, in addition to the more obvious laughs. And Jeff Bridges is really very good. (Imagine what sort of film would come out of a Coen Brothers/David Mamet collaboration!)

7. The Butcher Boy—A Neil Jordan film of a Patrick McCabe novel. If you're familiar with either of these people then I probably don't need to say anything more. If you're not, let's just say that *The Butcher Boy* is a film about growing up in the '60s in Ireland. Also, that the film is about the commonalities between serial killers, young boys, Marianism and sex, which, as McCabe and Jordan demonstrate, have a lot more in common than you might suspect.

8. Apt Pupil—Bryan Singer film of Stephen King's novella is an underated film that explores the nature of evil, which is invariably far more banal than most people are willing to believe. Singer transforms King's story into something quite frightening, but not mysterious-something-at-the-door frightening. This movie is only scary if you think about it.

9. Last Night—A feature film from Canadian wunderkind Don McKellar. It is a very Canadian end-of-the-world story which I liked because I am pretty sure that the world will probably end in much this way, with a little whimpering, a little banging and a lot of people wondering why they bothered or why they did not bother.

10. Life Is Beautiful—An extraordinarily audacious, touching, disturbing, beautiful film that is a poignant tragedy masquerading as a comedy. Roberto Benigni, who wrote, directed and starred in it, has fashioned a



film which transforms many preconceived notions about Nazi concentration camps and renders them into something quite personal.

Bottom Ten

1. Firestorm—This is the only film on this list that's so bad it's actually entertaining enough to be worth watching. And it is bad. There is the inept acting of muscle-bound star Howie Long, the magnificently bad direction which allows the same bucolic setting to be used over and over to represent settings that are supposed to be miles apart; and the stupid, stupid story which allows a pair of fragile eggs to survive car crashes, smoke, submersion and, of course, a firestorm.

2. A Perfect Murder—There is nothing, absolutely nothing to recommend in this movie. It's supposed to be a remake of *Dial M For Murder*, but that description gives it far too much credit. The very worst of a new genre of movies: the total-lack-of-suspense movie. Never mind the casting of Michael Douglas and Gwyneth Paltrow as man and wife, this movie had so many other things not going for it that the age difference becomes trivial.

3. Armageddon—A typical Jerry Bruckheimer film where bigger is better, louder is better, stupider is better. A movie for all those guys out there who regularly pass out with their heads pressed up against their stereo speakers while their heavy metal discs rotate through the player.

4. 54—Vindication for all those people who suspected that nothing

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Top movies
continues on page 21

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FILM

Ten most underrated films of 1998

By PATRICK VUONG

A film critic is supposed to review a movie objectively and either recommend the movie or not. But we know that's not always what happens. Many well-known critics habitually view movies with their own prejudices firmly in place. The following are movies that have been judged unfairly by biased critics or haven't been given the credit they deserve.

1. The Negotiator—A big reason why this movie got lukewarm reviews was the fact that everyone expected mindless, nonstop action, but if you view the movie objectively you'll discover an intelligent thriller with some very intense action sequences. Besides, it stars the ever-amazing Kevin Spacey and the only man who can say "fuck" and make it sound cool, Samuel L. Jackson.

2. The X-Files: Fight the Future—While this film did well at the box office, it didn't fare too well with film critics or die-hard fans. Why? Because everyone expected answers to all the questions posed by the TV series. But there was never any chance creator/writer Chris Carter would reveal all the secrets this early in the franchise. *Fight the Future* is comparable to any of the series' classic episodes.

3. Les Misérables—This epic movie deserved much better than the welcome it received. Starring

Liam Neeson, this version of *Les Mis* is one of the best adaptations of Victor Hugo's novel. It would have done much better at the box office had there been more promotion.

4. Deceiver—You've probably never heard of this intellectual thriller starring Tim Roth and Renee Zellweger unless you saw that tiny advertisement in the paper. This story about the murder of a prostitute should have garnered a lot more media attention.

5. Nightwatch—Another independent whodunit thriller, *Nightwatch* lacked the promotion it needed to draw in the box office receipts. And that's unfortunate, considering this was probably the spookiest film of the year. It stars Ewan McGregor and Nick Nolte.

6. Living Out Loud—Yet another victim of No-Advertising Syndrome. This unique drama with Danny DeVito and Holly Hunter garnered critical acclaim but had nothing to show for in the cinemas because most potential viewers didn't even know it was showing.

7. Lethal Weapon 4—This movie also suffers from a disease. I call it Box Office Contradiction Syndrome (BOCS). The symptoms include poor reviews from most film critics, combined with blockbuster ticket sales. The cure? Reviewers have to learn to appreciate this type of movie for what it is: pure entertainment.



8. Blade—Okay, I admit this movie had a horrible script, but nevertheless, *Blade* has some very slick fight scenes that combine martial arts, gothic horror and Hong Kong filmmaking flair. Besides, this film was number one in North America (which means it also has BOCS).

9. Star Trek: Insurrection—The crew of this franchise took massive hits from film critics but the movie still opened in the number-one spot at the cinemas during its first week. (Can anyone say BOCS?) Most reviewers claim that it is a movie "only for its fans." Well, if it wasn't made for the fans, who else is going to watch it?

10. Godzilla—Let's be honest now: it wasn't that bad! Obviously the hype surrounding this movie only made this film seem like more of a disappointment, but it isn't one of the worst movies of the year, as some critics are saying. At best, it's an average action movie and at worst, it's nothing more than a *Jurassic Park* rip-off.

Patrick Vuong is a regular film writer for Vue Weekly.

Top 10 stupid things on 1998 TV

By ATUL KHULLAR

The title of this list is somewhat redundant, not unlike "the most irritating Whitney Houston songs" or "the worst-ever Julia Roberts movies." Still, here are my choices for the crème de la crap, all from the giant toilet bowl of TV entertainment. Merry Christmas.

1. The overexposure of news events—Obviously, this phenomenon isn't unique to 1998, but now the media has virtually begun creating events in order to fuel today's vast array of information channels. A diverse assortment of perspectives on different stories is necessary and good for society. Thousands of hours of the Republicans wasting resources to satisfy their personal vendettas isn't.

2. The big American networks—Another fine year of decreasing people's IQs. Occasionally, they got lucky with stuff like *Just Shoot Me* or *Spin City* but for every one of those there was at least a thousand made-for-TV melodramas or pieces of junk like *Everybody Loves Raymond*. However, CBS gets full marks for putting last Saturday's impeachment proceedings exactly where they deserved to be: in the sports ticker during a football game.

3. The X-Files—This show was dead before it moved to L.A. Solid and often spectacular in its first four years, it is now a parody of itself, a victim of its own popularity. Happens all the time in TV, except to *The Simpsons*. Very sad.

4. Gap ads—Annoying music, stupid "alternative" poses and an obscene amount of airtime. Great for their target demographic, but irritating to the rest of us.

5. TSN—They were too cheap to keep their Canadian hockey rights except in Toronto, thereby fulfilling their true mandate of being the Toronto Sports Network. Their managerial monkeys thought that dying sports like baseball and boxing would suffice. Oops. CTV Sportsnet also scooped most of their soccer coverage, and Headline Sports has a much better highlight package. Want to hire a monkey next year?

6. Ally McBeal—She doesn't have anorexia. Right, and Boris Yeltsin isn't an alcoholic. When she smiles, she looks suspiciously like the Joker from *Batman*. But these are minor problems. It's the fact that people actually watch this whiny yuppie show that bugs me. This program sets women's liberation back 30 years and has dialogue so insipid it



makes *Days of Our Lives* look like Shakespeare.

7. The Tonight Show with Jay Leno—Will somebody please tell me the appeal of this guy? He hasn't been consistently funny for five years, and now his jokes go over about as well as an NDP candidate in Quebec. Leno's also become smarmier than an informer host. Even a deaf and blind Letterman would be funnier; meanwhile, Conan O'Brien has become the king of late night humour.

8. Saturday morning cartoons—Now that the majority of them have become corporate pitching agents or hallucinogen-induced creations, the only place to go if you want to suspend reality is Teletoon reruns of *Bugs Bunny* and *Ren and Stimpy*.

9. The Oprah Winfrey Show—Nah, too easy. And it would require a novel's worth of space.

10. Honorable Mentions—Figure skating as a TV sport; CBC's hockey coverage (except for Ron MacLean and Chris Cuthbert). To be fair, there is some quality television out there (A&E, The History Channel). Keep in mind, however, that since most of my TV watching these days is restricted to sports, you may want to take my comments with a grain of salt. But if what I've seen channel surfing during the games' commercial breaks is any indication, most of TV sucks harder than a ten-ton Shop-Vac.

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Atul Khullar is a contributing writer for Vue Weekly.

Top guilty pleasures of 1998

By PAUL MATWYCHUK

Movies, by their very nature, are all guilty pleasures. Just about everything that gives us the most enjoyment in movies is something we ought to be ashamed of: like a naked breast, a corny romantic clinch, a flamboyant, irresponsible burst of violence, a sassy, dirty bit of dialogue from the mouth of a pretty girl. We

remember the same things from even the most respectable movies that a giddy eight-year-old would the guy hitting the propeller in *Titanic* (ouch!), the Scottish warriors mooning the British soldiers in *Braveheart* (cool!), the hapless Marine lugging around his severed arm in *Saving Private Ryan* (yuck!).

Some movies, however, sustain a level of utterly indefensible pleasure for their entire running time. There's nothing enabling or elevating about them, and you might bemoan and make smarty-pants criticisms about them to your friends the day after you see them, but while you're sitting there in the darkened movie theatre, you're completely, helplessly caught up with what you're watching. Here are the movies

that provided me with the most guilty pleasure in 1998—the ones I'm almost embarrassed to admit I liked.

1. Snake Eyes—Brian de Palma has so much filmmaking craft, and applies it to such gaudy, tawdry scripts that he drives most critics and moviegoers crazy. I can't get enough of all his ultra-enthusiastic excess; here, he throws in a ridiculous, 15-minute-long single-take opening scene, a screwball interlocking-flashback structure, and even a tidal wave climax. I haven't had this much fun at a movie in ages.

2. Very Bad Things—Roger Ebert said that he wouldn't ever want to meet anybody who found the final scene of this movie funny. Eep—there goes my invitation to the National Society of Film Critics New Year's Eve party! Peter Berg's violent black comedy is certainly vile and cynical, but I had to smile at his frat-boy outrageousness all the same.

3. Bride of Chucky—There's a scene in this movie where Chucky, the evil killer doll and his girl-

friend, also a doll, have sex. I'll say it again: they actually have sex. And get this: before things really heat up, the girlfriend stops and says, "Hey, wait... do you have a rubber?" "Are you kidding?" Chucky replies, "I'm all rubber!"

4. Wild Things—There hasn't been this kind of campy, sweaty, double-dealing sleazefest on the screen since the days of *The Adventurers* and *Jacqueline Susann's Once Is Not Enough*. And with Neve Campbell and Denise Richards in the lead roles, it's a perfect movie for the Humbert Humberts in all of us. Bill Murray recently won an L.A. Film Critics' Award for his hilarious performance as an utterly unprincipled lawyer.

5. Pecker—Critics keep complaining that John Waters has lost his edge. Gee whiz—I thought this movie was pretty outrageous. (I still cherish the *Pecker* teabag the Princess Theatre gave me as a souvenir.) The scene near the start of the movie, with a woman dry-shaving her legs on a crowded city bus, is one of the greatest white-trash images of all time.



6. The Mask of Zorro

Halfway through this movie, there's a scene where Antonio Banderas and Catherine Zeta-Jones have a swordfight that's also a mutual seduction. Banderas keeps provocatively slicing away at Zeta-Jones's outfit until finally he gets her in a clinch and whispers to her, "Do you surrender?" I'd surrendered to this movie long ago. That swordfight is the kind of scene—sexy, funny, stylish and at heart just a little ridiculous—that makes people fall in love with the movies in the first place.

Paul Matwychuk is the assistant editor and a regular arts and film writer for Vue Weekly.

Top ten disappointing movies of 1998

By NICOLA SIMPSON

1998 was a good year for the domestic box office. *Titanic* alone made over \$500 million and *Armageddon* racked up some bonus miles for Disney this summer. But, as is always the case, not every movie released made money, and not every movie that made money was good.

The following are some of the movie offerings from 1998 that didn't quite live up to their hype, or which could have been so much better. I hate to call them "disappointments" or to sound negative since, in fact, there is merit in all these movies. But knowing what you know now, would you pay \$8.50 to see them?

1. The X-Files: Fight the Future—I know people who actually went to this movie eight times within its first week of release. They would have been better off going through their videotapes and watching a mythic two-part from the series' second or third season. Pretty cool to see Moose and Squirrel on the big screen though. Thank God Duchovny decided to forego his requisite bare-ass scene. Seeing that on a 40-foot screen might have added injury to insult.

2. Godzilla—Need I say more? The Taco Bell tie-in commercials had more bite to them.

3. Snake Eyes—A case of the whole falling short of the parts. Considering the talents of Brian De Palma, Gary Sinise and Nicolas Cage were all involved, this movie shouldn't have come up snake eyes.

4. I Still Know What You Did Last Summer—Not a surprising disappointment, but an example of how one or two good Kevin Williamson slasher flicks can spawn a trend of mediocrity.

5. Artemisia—Hot sex and period costumes do not a great movie make.

6. Elizabeth—Like I said, hot sex and period costumes do not a great movie make. This was by far the best period movie of the year, but it still suffered from a case of "let's change the history to make it fit more easily into two hours" syndrome. The real history of Elizabeth I was just as compelling as the movie's version.

7. The Replacement Killers—The only movie I walked out of this year. The only line I liked:



Chow Yun-Fat's deadpan "I need guns." After another 20 minutes, so did I.

8. Jackie Brown—The only movie I saw in 1998 that I wish I had walked out of.

9. A Perfect Murder—Granted, it's hard to be disappointed by a movie from which you expect little, but this tepid thriller certainly wasn't worth the two hours I spent watching it on the plane to England...valuable time I could have spent sleeping.

10. The Negotiator—Like *Snake Eyes*, this one falls into the category of "wasted potential." With acting from Samuel L. Jackson, Kevin Spacey, Ron Rifkin and David Morse, this movie could have been a genuine fade-in-to-fade-out thriller instead of losing its momentum halfway through.

I saw some wonderful, wonderful movies this year—*A Couch in New York, Babe: Pig in the City, Deceitful, L.A. Confidential*—the list goes on. There is so much talent in film right now, from writers and actors to set designers and special effects editors. Here's hoping 1999 brings out the best in them, and the worst in the marketing departments. It's about time studios let audiences make up their own minds about movies, instead of psyching them out with billboards and McMeals.

Nicola Simpson is a regular film writer for Vue Weekly.

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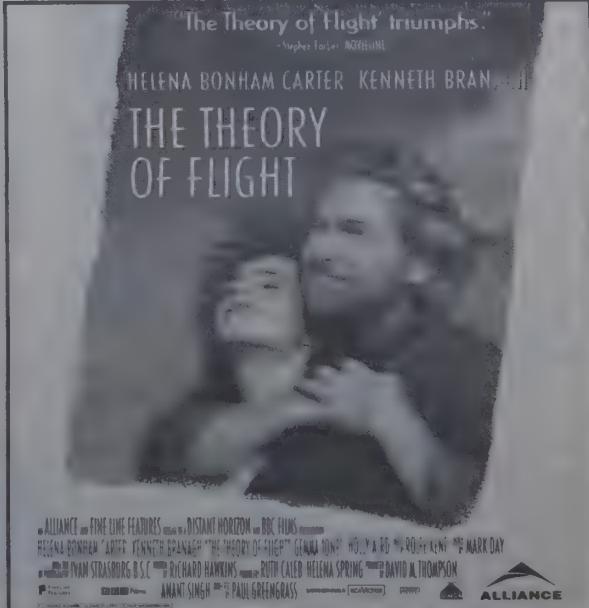
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FILM

Top 10 sexiest actors and actresses of 1998

By AMY HOUGH

What is sexy? Well, sexiness consists of a lot of things: wit, charm, personality, style, smarts, ability and sometimes even looks. Here is a list of the sexiest people of 1998 on the big and small screen.

Women

1. Angelina Jolie—The Elizabeth Taylor of the '90s. Jolie is so luminous you can't take your eyes off of her. In this year's HBO production *Gia* she proved she just isn't a pretty face—she can act too.

2. Sarah Michelle Gellar—Gellar, who plays Buffy the Vampire Slayer, is everything a young woman should be. She's smart, talented, well-dressed and capable of kicking any vampire's ass.

3. Lucy Lawless—Who doesn't love Xena? The young, the old, the gay and the straight have all found something to admire in her. Lawless is a universal beauty.

4. Miranda Richardson—Richardson is a Renaissance woman. From her days as Queenie on TV's *Blackadder* to her most recent role as Mab in the TV movie *Merlin*, there isn't a role she can't play.

5. Andrea Parker—Parker, aptly enough, plays Miss Parker on TV's *The Pretender*. Her portrayal of a smart, driven and undeniably cruel woman is a sight to see. In fact, she's the only reason I still watch *The Pretender*.

6. Lucy Alexis Liu—The evil Ling from TV's *Ally McBeal*. Ling the litigious she-devil is the most original character I've seen on TV for a very long time. I'm drawn to her.

7. Helen Mirren—A force that can't be denied. As Jane Tennison on TV's *Prime Suspect*, she's a woman who knows who comes first, herself, of course.

8. Lisa Nicole Carson—Carson plays the saucy Renée on TV's *Ally McBeal*. The world needs a few

more women who aren't afraid to use their sexuality to their advantage.

9. Christina Ricci—A former child actress who has yet to rob a drug store. Ricci proved she has come into her own with this year's *The Opposite of Sex*. She sets a good example for younger girls: you don't have to be pencil-thin to be a good actress, but you do need talent.

10. Cameron Diaz—

There's just something about her. Lovely, as always, in this year's *There's Something About Mary*.

Men

1. Dean Winters—I was hard put not to list all the male actors from TV's *Oz* for my top ten men list. Sure, they all play convicts, but they are so buff. I pared down my list by choosing my favorite actor from the show: Winters plays the devious Ryan O'Reilly, who is so charming in that endearingly psychopathic way.

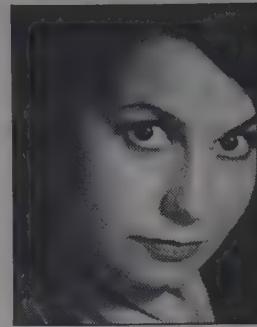
2. Conan O'Brien & Andy Richter—There is nothing sexier than a man with a clever wit—and here's two of them. The host and cohost of TV's *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* can always make me laugh.

3. Mike Wallace—The journalist every journalist aspires to be. Wallace, a staple of TV's *60 Minutes*, is now 80 and is still as sharp and sexy as ever. He's the man I would most like to meet.

4. André Braugher—TV's *Homicide: Life on the Street* hasn't been the same since Braugher left. The charm of his deeply philosophical character Frank Pembleton is sorely missed. Fans will be happy to know he has four movies scheduled for release in 1999.

5. Dylan McDermott—McDermott, a lead player on TV's *The Practice*, is so handsome it is almost painful. Could any other man get away with playing an adult character named Bobby?

6. Chow Yun-Fat—Already a



megastar in China, Yun-Fat made his North American debut in this year's *The Replacement Killers*. Gorgeous, physically fit and a fighting machine.

7. Vince Vaughn—With four movies released this year, Vaughn has come a long way from his *Swingers* days, baby. It must have taken a very self-assured man to assume the role of Norman Bates in this year's remake of *Psycho*.

8. Matt LeBlanc—I am definitely not a fan of his brain-dead character on TV's *Friends*, but LeBlanc was tragically handsome as Don West in this year's *Lost in Space*. I suggest LeBlanc give himself some credit and stop playing dumb.

9. Kyle Chandler—Chandler plays the adorable Gary on TV's *Early Edition*. There is just something very old-fashioned about him. He reminds me of the silver screen stars of yesteryear.

10. Ralph Fiennes—Usually Fiennes creeps the bejesus out of me, but he played a perfect John Steed in this year's *The Avengers*. The picture of refined style, Fiennes has finally won me over. You got to love a man who wears a hat—and, no, baseball caps and toques don't count.

Amy Hough is the former managing editor of Vue. She now contributes on a part-time basis—in-between biting the books for her third university degree and painting her nails.

CINEMARK THEATRES

\$1.50 ALL SHOWS BEFORE 6 PM \$2.00 SHOWS AFTER 6 PM

\$1.00 ALL DAY TUESDAY!

\$3.00 SAT MIDNIGHT SHOWS - CINEMA CITY 12 ONLY

MOVIES 12
130 AVE.-50TH STREET 472-9779

Showtimes effective Fri, Jan. 1 - Thu, Jan. 7, 1999.
Doors open at 10:45 am from Fri-Sun.
Doors open at 12:25 pm from Mon-Thu.

CINEMA CITY 12
3633-99 STREET 463-5481

Showtimes effective FRI, JANUARY 1 - THU, JANUARY 7, 1999.

MEET JOE BLACK	PG	THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT MARY	14A
(Ultra Stereo) Not suitable for younger children.		PG	Fri-Sun 10:30 AM Daily 1:35 2:15 7:05 9:45 PM
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(Ultra Stereo) Violent scenes.		Violent scenes, coarse language.	
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SNAKE EYES	14A	Midnight Sat only 11:15 PM	
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Fri-Sun 11:15 AM		SMOKIN' ACES	14A
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(Ultra Stereo) Coarse language.			

FILM

a MINUTE at the MOVIES

by Todd James

Todd James's Top 10 Films of 1998

1. *Life Is Beautiful*
2. *Saving Private Ryan*
3. *Elizabeth*
4. *Lolita*
5. *The Red Violin*
6. *City of Angels*
7. *The Big Lebowski*
8. *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*
9. *Pleasantville*
10. *Bulwark*

in the '70s, Patch discovers his gift for connecting with his patients and fights the medical establishment to allow him to continue practising his unorthodox brand of medicine. Williams's stunts lost their appeal and originality years ago; his cloying, lengthy, melodramatic speeches about the virtues of healing the soul of the patient and not just the body may well cause an epidemic of nausea among the audience. **OO**

THE PRINCE OF EGYPT Dreamworks Pictures, led by the all-powerful Steven Spielberg, David Geffen and Jeffrey Katzenberg, have a lot riding on this reportedly \$100-million animated epic. *The Prince of Egypt* is not aimed at kids, and has zero merchandising opportunities (unless a "let my people go" Happy Meal piques your interest). Dreamworks was determined to remain true to the essence of the Biblical story, and although they've whittled it down to 90 minutes, they succeed. Val Kilmer heads the film's list of well-known voices as Moses, a Hebrew baby found by the Queen of Egypt and raised as her own until the lad stumbles onto the truth. At God's command, Moses eventually opposes his brother, the pharaoh Rameses (voiced by Ralph Fiennes). Characters burst into song, but the music actually propels the story and doesn't seem like a soundtrack-filling afterthought. The animation is beyond description and the respect the film shows for the story whets one's appetite for the real thing... or at least for DeMille's *The Ten Commandments*. **OOOO**

PSYCHO Director Gus Van Sant is a brave man indeed, taking on the remake of one of the most analyzed, imitated and inspired thrillers of all time. He covers his bases, though, by not trying to improve upon or even tamper with Hitchcock's 1960 classic. With the exception of colour (and even that has a bleached, pale look), the script and scene set-ups are virtually identical to the original. However, the dialogue has a dated feel to it and the pacing, painfully tense in 1960, is awkward in 1998. Anne Heche plays the part of Marion Crane, the unfortunate shower victim made famous by Janet Leigh in the original, and Vince Vaughn is the oedipal Norman Bates, proprietor of the Bates Motel

where all the grisly action takes place. Tony Perkins's place in history as the world's most menacing bellboy is intact, although Vaughn's work is certainly creepy. The well-known shower scene is given a slightly more gruesome take, but everything from the soundtrack to the brilliant editing is just as Hitch first approached it. Audiences used to Psycho offspring like *Scream* may find the tension nearly unbearable and, consequently, more frightening than recent horror flicks where a release is given to the audience every 10 minutes. There are really only three scenes that qualify as terrifying, but those unfamiliar with the original should find them sufficient. Still, this is more of a curiosity as much as anything, and proof positive that it was done right the first time—and should have been left alone. **OO**

STAR TREK: INSURRECTION Star Trek continues to boldly go where few franchises have gone before with their ninth feature film instalment—the second without Captain Kirk, Spock or Scotty beaming somebody up. Captain Jean-Luc Picard (Patrick Stewart) and the rest of the Enterprise crew come to the aid of the Ba'ku, an ancient race of people who have shunned technology. The Ba'ku's planet holds the secrets to eternal youth, coveted by the Son'a, a decaying race of people in desperate need of some facelifts. Oscar-winning actor F. Murray Abraham is barely recognizable as Ru'afo, leader of the Son'a and orchestrator of the plan to destroy the Ba'ku's home. The regenerative effects of the planet add a little spice to the crew of the Enterprise, too—expect hormone levels to rise, romance to blossom and a plucky Picard to defy Star Fleet Command for the love a Ba'ku woman. Jonathan Frakes, who plays Commander Riker, takes the director's chair once again, as he did in the last movie, *First Contact*. He knits a nifty story together and even pushes the characters into brave new worlds. The special effects are toned down, but not at the expense of the several obligatory space battle scenes. This is a lighter Star Trek movie that takes itself less seriously than previous efforts—it isn't cluttered by a lot of subplots and extraneous characters. I suppose I could use the word "predictable," but "comfortable" is a better description. It's lean and streamlined, hitting warp speed quickly—and it stays there. **OOOO**

YOU'VE GOT MAIL Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan are reunited in a movie that may make you yearn for *Sleepless in Seattle*, or perhaps just for a good nap. The only good thing about this snoozy

remake of 1940's *The Shop Around the Corner* is the reliable chemistry between the two leads. Hanks is the owner of a mega-discount bookstore ready to crush his outgunned competition, the tiny neighbourhood bookshop run by Ryan. In business, they're enemies, but in an Internet chat room, they've unwittingly become online lovers. Pretentious, forced dialogue and a snail-mail pace dooms this sappy computer comedy from *Sleepless in Seattle* writer/director Nora Ephron. A cast that includes Parker Posey, Jean Stapleton, Greg Kinnear and Dabney Coleman only adds to the clutter. **OO**

VUE Ratings

✗	Awful
✗	Bad
✗	Poor
✗	Good
✗	Very Good
✗	Excellent

Todd James hosts *A Minute at the Movies*, on ITV News Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. Also catch Todd daily on Mix 96 FM.

CINEPLEX ODEON CINEMAS

TALKING MOVIE LISTINGS

CINEMA GUIDE

Showtimes effective
FRI, January 1 - THU, January 7, 1999.

EATON CENTRE CINEMAS

2nd fl., Phone 410-218-1822. Fax: 410-218-1822

PATCH ADAMS

Daily 1:30-4:10-7:10-9:50 PM
Presented in Digital Theatre Sound

STEPHOM

Daily 12:40-3:30-6:40-9:20 PM
Coarse language

THE FACULTY

Daily 12:30-2:00-5:10-7:40-10:00 PM
Loose language, gory violence

JACK FROST

Daily 1:30-3:40 PM

PSYCHO

Daily 7:30 PM

AMERICAN HISTORY X

Daily 9:40 PM

ENEMY OF THE STATE

Daily 1:10-4:00-6:50-9:50 PM

COARSE LANGUAGE

STEPHOM

Daily 1:10-4:10-7:00-9:50 PM
Coarse language, gory violence

WHITE MUD CROSSING

Daily 1:10-4:00-7:00-9:50 PM

ELIZABETH

Daily 1:10-3:00-6:30 PM

PSYCHO

Daily 9:20 PM

THE FACULTY

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WHITE MUD CROSSING

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ELIZABETH

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WHITE MUD CROSSING

Daily 1:10-3:00-4:00-6:50-9:00 PM

ELIZABETH

Daily 1:10-3:00-6:30 PM

We want to wish our listeners a very Happy New Year.



CJSR FM88
edmonton's independent

Restaurants

LEGEND

\$	Up to \$10 per*
\$\$	\$10-20 per
\$\$\$	\$20-30 per
\$\$\$\$	30 per & up

* Price per person, before tax & tip

ALTERNATIVE

Badass Jack's (8621-109 St., 4204-137 Ave., 4211-109 St.) Edmonton's first and original Californian wraps. A fresh and healthy alternative, featuring fresh baked bread, carved off the roast subs, and homemade side dishes. (open 'til 12 am on weekends) \$

Ber-zerk (8128 - 103 St., 431-9864) Bigger scoops + low prices = A Big Hit! 36 flavours (ice cream, frozen yogurts, sorbets & sherberts). We serve milk shakes, floats, homemade waffle cones, "squishies" (aka slurpees), etc. S

Le Brasserie (10332 Whyte Ave., 434-6597) Now providing the freshest, tantalizing chicken burgers and homemade pizza, pitchers of beer, and Italian pastries. Come in and check out our friendly atmosphere with friendly staff. S

Cafe Mosaics (10844 Whyte Ave., 433-9702) A wide variety of home-made, healthy meals, featuring many selections for vegetarians. Live music on Wednesdays. S

Route 99 Diner (8820-99 St., 432-0986) 50's diner with an abundance of memorabilia, a jukebox playing 50's music and a great variety of food. S-\$

Bakeries
Mr. Samosa (9630 - 142 St., 451-5687) A creative East Indian snack shop known for their samosas. The bakery specializes in chevra, ghantra, samosas, nan and rottie. Indian sweet maker.

Skopek's Bake Shop (10115 - 104 St., 425-9706) High on taste, high on life. Come ganache your teeth. Open 8 am - 5 pm Mon.-Fri.

Tree Stone Bakery (8612 - 99 St., 433-5924) Artisan bread shop making pain au levain (true French sourdough). Flour milled on-site. Broche (Fri & Sat.) and more. Tues-Fri 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Sat 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Bistros
Bistro Praha (10168 - 100 A St., 424-4218) The first European Cafe since 1977 and still the only one. S\$

Cafe Select (10016 - 106 St., 423-0419) Offer-

Plugs aplenty for 1999

The best professionals in Edmonton

By JARON SUMMERS

HERE ARE A FEW TIPS to help you make it through 1999 and into the new millennium.

First, you have to be able to see what's going on. That means you'll need a great eye doctor. The best one in the city, maybe in Canada, is R.A. Morgan, M.D.

Face it; if you can't see, life can be rough. Morgan performs miracles with a laser. If I had something wrong with my eyes, Doc Morgan would be the man I'd see my sight on. Best of all, he explains exactly what he's doing and has the patience of Job. His phone number is 428-6842. (With a world-class specialist such as Dr. Morgan, the proper protocol is to be referred by another physician, but it's a good idea to have his number handy.)

Speaking of doctors, everyone needs a dependable family physician. For my money, Dr. Lo at the Baker Clinic (phone: 944-9583) is a dynamite choice. I like him

ing lunch, dinner and late night dining in a relaxed atmosphere for over 14 years. Open to 2 am seven nights a week.

Cafe De Ville (10137 - 124 St., 488-9188) Located in Old Glenora, we offer a diverse and eclectic menu in a warm and inviting atmosphere. Fresh food & a new wine/cocktail list. Beautiful patio. S\$

Cest Bon Bistro (10505 Whyte Ave., 439-8609) Great food, cozy atmosphere in the old post 5 building. Light lunches, salads, vegetarian fare, specialty coffees, delicious desserts, muffins and other baked goods, all homemade. "It's all in the name". S

Manor Cafe (10109 - 125 St., 482-7577) Remarkable location, flavour and service. Great prices on dishes from around the world. S\$

Matess Urban Bistro (8223 - 104 St., 431-0179) The first European bistro since 1996 and still the only one. Radegast on tap. S\$

Russian Tea Room (10312 Jasper Ave., 426-0000) We have a delicious variety of food to choose from, including the best chicken in town. Our centrally located restaurant has a quiet and romantic atmosphere, candlelight at night to warm your heart. We also do Te Leaf Readings. Open 7 days a week. S-\$

Sweetwater Cafe (12427 - 102 Ave., 488-1959) In the heart of Old Glenora, delicious, health conscious dishes made fresh. Experience the ultimate brunch Saturday & Sunday, or drop by in the evening for wine & one of our specialty pastas. S\$

BREW PUBS

Brewsters (11620-104 Ave., 482-4677) Extensive menu selection, 14 different types of beer brewed on site. Brewery tours available. S\$

CAFES

Aroma Borealis (Coopers & Lybrand Building, 211, 10130 - 103 St., 944-9693) Designer sandwiches, latte, cappuccino, great coffee, & fabulous dessert by Skopek's Bake Shop. S

Bennys Bagels Cafe on Whyte (10460 - 82 Ave., 414-0007) Come for breakfast, lunch, or for a latte or cappuccino after a night out. We have catering and a deli available. Check out our patio for hot summer days. S

Breadstick Cafe (10159 - Whyte Ave., 448-5989) Open 24 hours. Licensed. Catering. S

Cafe La Gare (8104-103 St., 433-5138) Smoke-Free. Licensed, and offers a winning medley of culinary delights including vegetarian fare, hearty salads, grilled sandwiches, and fresh baked goods. (10308A-81 Ave., 439-2969) Smoking. Just two doors down, with a style of its own! S

Cappuccino Affair (12808-137 Ave., Palisades

Square, 457-0709) Friendly staff, home-like atmosphere, fireplace, loveseat groupings. Light breakfast, lunch or night-time snack. Specialty and European coffees, fully licensed. Catering and take-out available. S

C'est Bon Bistro (10505 Whyte Ave., 439-8609) Great food, cozy atmosphere in the Old Post Office Building. Light lunches, salads, vegetarian fare, specialty coffee, delicious desserts, muffins and other baked goods, all homemade. "It's all in the name". S

The Commissary (11750 - Jasper Ave., 488-9019) A large selection of fresh sandwiches, salads, soups, casseroles and desserts, to stay or to go. Coffee, catering and weekend brunch. Fast, friendly service in a casual atmosphere. S

Jazzberries Too Cafe (10116-124 St., 488-1553) A great "alternative" with friendly staff, good home-style cooking in a relaxed environment. Smokers always welcome. S

Juliano's Restaurant & Cappuccino Bar (11121 - 156 St., 451-1117) Wonder food and prices mama would love! Fast lunches served Trattoria style with a more relaxed dinner atmosphere. A great place to meet friends! S

Katmandu Coffee (201, 10 McKenney Ave., St. Albert, 419-3550) A European coffee bar atmosphere in St. Albert. The friendly neighborhood ambience creates a pleasant, inviting environment that encourages conversation. Similar to the early coffee houses of Europe, updated to reflect the contemporary life-style of today's coffee and jazz connoisseur. Gourmet coffee, specialty coffee (both hot & cold) Espresso & light lunch food items. S

Makapakafe (13042 - 50 St., 413-4165) No place like it in N.E. Edmonton. A huge variety of special coffee, nachos, sandwiches, wraps. Providing a spacious environment for an evening out. Great desserts too. S

Misty on Whyte (104588 - 82 Ave., 433-3512) Specialty & European coffee, breakfast buns & bagels, home-made soups, sandwiches, bagel melts, lasagna & more! \$3.95 lunch special everyday. Smoking & nonsmoking areas.

Muddy Waters Cappuccino Bar (8211 - 111 St., 433-4390) Great eats & drinks in a comfortable atmosphere. Daily liquor and food specials. Catering. S

Remedy (8631 - 109 St., 433-3096) Fresh food, cheap beer, warm and funky atmosphere with two pool tables. Lots of free parking beside The Movie Studio. Mon-Thu & Sun 10-12 am; Fri & Sat 10 am - 1 am.

Sugar Bowl (10922 - 88 Ave., 433-8369) The esoteric & eclectic cafe Full espresso bar, fresh baking daily. Daily hot specials. Live entertainment.

Sunterra Market (Commerce Place, 201, 10150 Jasper Ave.) Muffins and pastries freshly made at our on-site bakery. Fresh meat counter, produce deli, fresh bread, ready to heat entrees. Coffee bar with specialty coffee,

can be past 35 and sexier than any 21-year-old. I've never met a grandmother like her. Phone: 424-031.

After you're feeling good, looking good and ready for a drive, you can take your car to Alan Nathan. He's a master with a wrench, especially when it comes to older vehicles: I've got a thirty-year-old Mercedes that he's kept purring like a kitten for a couple of

decades. His prices seem to be about a half or a third of what I would pay at a dealership. As a matter of fact, he has fixed my car on a couple of occasions for a tenth of what it would have cost me anywhere else in the city. Phone: 988-9434.

Want to fly to town and need a cheap ride to the airport in a clean van? Then call Share Ride Inc. at 413-4090. It's about a third the price of a taxi and only takes ten minutes more.

Now suppose you want to write about all your adventures. To help you edit your opus, call the best editor I know: Richard L. Sherbanuk at 433-8679. He's expensive but after he's finished with your manuscript, people will think you're better than Hemingway. It makes me shudder to consider how he would have improved this column.

Have a great New Year!

commentary

Jaron Summers is a regular columnist for Vue Weekly. To receive his column every week, e-mail <jaron@vue.ab.ca> and write, "Put me on the list!"

Restaurants

LEGEND

\$	Up to \$10 per*
\$\$	\$10-20 per
\$\$\$	\$20-30 per
\$\$\$\$	30 per & up

* Price per person, before tax & tip

cappuccino, latte. Eat in or take home. Corporate or private catering available. \$

CAJUN

Cajun House (7 St. Anne St., St. Albert, 460-8772) Worth the drive to sample some of the best Jambalaya and Gumbo in the province. \$

Da-De-O (10548 - 82 Ave., 433-0930) Funky-style restaurant in an old-style diner on Whyte Ave. \$

Louisiana Purchase (10320 - 111 St., 420-6779) Higher-end style of cooking from the Bayou & great atmosphere. \$

CANADIAN

Applebee's (13006 - 50 St., 475-6100 & 10338 - 109 St., 421-1600) Their diverse, 60 item menu is revised twice a year and is tailored to local tastes. Appeals to all ages. \$

Barb & Erie's (9096 - 72 Ave., 433-3242) One of the best mom & pop operations in the city. \$

Billiards Club (2 St. 10505 - 82 Ave., 432-0335) Rack 'em up and chin down, with heaps of burgers & mugs of ale. \$

Bones (10220 - 103 St., 421 - 4747) Known as the place for ribs - on the Boardwalk. \$

David's (8407 Argyll Rd., 468 - 1167) Specializing in Alberta beef dishes on the south of the town. \$

Franklin's Inn Dining Room (2016 Sherwood Dr., Sherwood Park 467-1234) All day breakfast and a great selection of all your favourites. Featuring our carved roast beef buffet. Friday nights and our \$8.95 Sunday Brunch buffet. Open at 5 am Mon-Fri., 6 am Sat-Sun. \$-\$

The Garage Barber Bar and Grill (10242 - 106 St., 423 - 5014) The best home made burgers with daily lunch specials at student - friendly prices. \$

The Grinder (10957 - 124 St., 453 - 1709) For a casual fine dining experience we've been one of Edmonton's favourite restaurants for over 17 years. \$

High Life Diner (10912 - 88 Ave., 433 - 0933) Wholesome and health conscious - Known for their tasty hummus and veggie burgers. \$

Insomnia Pub (5552 - Calgary Trail South, 414 - 1743) A new, cool place for the new, cool generation. Great food, great atmosphere, awesome prices. \$

Iron Horse Eatery & Watering Hole (8101 - 103 St., 438 - 1907) Canadian cuisine with influences from around the world. Largest patio on Whyte Ave. Perfect for afternoon or late night gatherings.

Keegan's (8709 - 109 St., 439 - 8934) At any hour, the last word in Huveos Rancheros. \$

Larry's Cafe (6, 10015 - 82 Ave., 414 - 6040) Best breakfasts and lunches on the south side. Cheap meals! \$

Nellie's Tea Shoppe (12606 - 118 Ave., 452 - 9429) Edmonton's best keep secret on the north side. Featuring all home - made meals. Specializing in traditional English tea and gourmet evening meals. \$

The Raven (10338 - 81 Ave., 431 - 1193) An eclectic selection of "wood fired food" featuring Old Stratcona's best steaks and oven-roasted chicken. Don't forget to try our new baked oysters. See you soon. \$

Rosie's Bar and Grill (10604 - 101 St., 432 - 3499) Nothing fancy, but sensible home cooking without the frills. \$

The Sidetrack Cafe (10333 - 112 St., 453 - 1326) Whether you like succulent steak, decadent eggs Benedict in the morning or late night chicken wings, The Sidetrack Cafe's kitchen will do it for you. \$-\$

The Tea House (52404 Range Rd. 221, Ardrossan, AB, 922-2279, 922-6963) Country fresh foods for lunch, dinner or breakfast. antiques, local arts and crafts and unique gifts to browse around. Mystery dinners held monthly. Breakfast & lunch \$; dinner \$-\$

Timothy's (10250-102 Ave., 3rd Floor Eaton's, 493-7456) Great hot meal selection daily. Fast food items, salad bar, made to order. Pastas, bakery items & much more. Plus a frequent dinner program. \$

Turtle Creek Cafe (8404-109 St., 433-4202) Continental-style bistro with good variety of dishes + pizza, soufflés, pasta and more. \$

Unheido Restaurant (9602-82 Ave., 432-0480) Over 17 years of operating a fine dining establishment in a newly renovated building. \$\$\$\$

Urban Lounge For lunch, dinner or late night fare, experience wholesome home-made 1/2 pound burgers, healthy gourmet salads, or a generous portion of seafood or pasta. Remarkable service at affordable prices in a unique atmosphere. Saturday afternoons enjoy the smooth sounds of our Jazz trio while you dine. \$

Fax your FREE listing to 426-2889

Von's Steak and Fish House (10309-81 Ave., 439-0041) Alberta beef at its best and great seafood, too. \$

Zac's Place Cafe and Pub (Fort. 9055-76 Ave., 439-1901) Featuring their famous ultimate burger and all-day breakfasts. \$

CHINESE

Genghis Grill (10080 Jasper Ave., 424-6197) "A Mongolian food experience". \$

Man's Cafe (12520-118 Ave., 452-3672) A super stop for a variety of tasty treats. Make sure to try the Oriental Stir Fry. \$

INDIAN

Jewel of Kashmire (17219 104 St. 438-4464) Discover a place that's out of this world. Designed to capture the excitement & glamour of India: for an extraordinary experience, there's only one place, Indian cuisine at its best.

New Asian Village (10143 Saskatchewan Dr., 433-3804) Cooking at its best from the sub-continent with a great panoramic river valley view. \$

Spicy House (9777-102 A Ave., Canada Place (Food Court), 425 0193 or 475 0456) veg & non-veg curries prepared with choice herbs, the secret to the intoxicating flavour of Indian cuisine. Samosas, koftas, pakoras, biryanis, tandooris. Catering for all occasions. \$

EUROPEAN

Continental Treat (10560-82 Ave., 433-7432) Enjoy excellent European cuisine in an elegant yet comfortable atmosphere. \$

Madison's Grill (Union Bank Inn, 4055 Jasper Ave., 423-3600) Unique historical building. Up-scale regional cuisine with a European influence. Full catering and banquets. Mon-Sat 8am-11pm, Sun 8am-2 pm. \$\$\$

GREEK

Koutouki Taverna (10704 124 St. next to Roxy Theatre, 452-5383) The most authentic Greek food in Edmonton, prepared by the original Yianni himself. See you there!

Syntaki Greek Island Restaurant (16313-111 Ave., 484-2473) Visit the Greek Islands in Edmonton. \$

Yiannis Taverna Restaurant (10444-82 Ave., 433-6768) Authentic Greek food, belly dancing, and the friendly staff create a fun and boisterous atmosphere that will entertain young and old. \$

IRISH PUB

O'Byrne's Irish Pub (10616 - Whyte Ave., 414-6766) We serve a variety of pub food, all hand-made with care and pride. From our homemade fish 'n' chips to our near famous Irish breakfast. Our menu changes daily, so please come in & indulge in the experience. \$-\$

ITALIAN

Bruno's Italian Restaurant (9914-89 Ave., 433-8161) Quiet, family-style dining and one of Edmonton's best kept secrets. \$

Chianti (10501-82 Ave., 439-8729) Botticelli paintings serve as a nice backdrop in establishment offering the best pasta selections in town. \$

Fiore Cantina Italiana (8715-109 St., 439-8466) Good, affordable, restaurant off campus. \$

MEXICAN

Julio's Barrio (10450-82 Ave., 431-0774) Hearty dishes in a trendy neighbourhood, perfect for your next fiesta. \$

Long Star Cafe (11811 Jasper Ave., 488-4330) Canada's only authentic Mexican Restaurant. \$

Frank's Place - Pacific Fish (1020-101 A Ave., 433-2889) Situated by a music from Churchill Square and Summer festival fun. An extensive Italian and seafood menu, friendly efficient service, and generous portions ensure a return visit. \$-\$

Giovanni's Restaurant (10130-107 St., 426-2021) Delicious cuisine for a song - featuring Giovanni himself when he breaks into a heart-stopping aria. \$

Il Portico (10012-107 St., 426-0707) Trendy downtown restaurant with fresh imaginative dishes. \$

Sheeky's (7623 Argyll Rd., 426-8983 & 1030-103 St., 424-8657) Real food, real fast. Tropicana. Italian Dishes. Soups/salads/sandwiches made from scratch Call ahead for reservations. \$

Sorrentino's (10844-95 St., 425-0960) In the heart of Little Italy, serves delicious authentic Italian fare. \$

Sorrentino's Whyte Avenue (10612-82 Ave., 426-0800) Authentic Italian cooking. Tantalizing appetizers, pizzas, calzones, pasta and entrees. \$

The Old Spaghetti Factory (10220-103 St., 422-6088) Heaving plates of spaghetti served with their patented tasty sauce. \$

Tony Roma's (11730 Jasper Ave., 482-5711) Great barbecue chicken and ribs with lots of food on your plate. \$

Zenari's on 1st (10117 - 101 St., 425-6151) Humble Artsy hang-out with appetizing combinations of soup, sandwiches and pasta. \$

JAPANESE

Furasato (10012-82 Ave., 439-1335) Cozy Restaurant featuring a choice selection of meals from the Land of the Rising Sun. \$

Mikado (10350-109 St., 425-8096) The oldest Japanese restaurant in Edmonton for a good reason. \$

Osaka (10511-82 Ave., 944-1388) Good affordable sushi and other authentic specialties on Whyte Ave. \$

MEXICAN

Julio's Barrio (10450-82 Ave., 431-0774) Hearty dishes in a trendy neighbourhood, perfect for your next fiesta. \$

Long Star Cafe (11811 Jasper Ave., 488-4330) Canada's only authentic Mexican Restaurant. \$

PASTRY SHOP

Alain Patissier (9925-82 Ave., 988-9312) Quality French breads and pastries. Also serving sandwiches, quiches an specialty coffee. \$

PIZZA

Funky Pickle (10441-82 Ave., 433-3865) Neatly tucked away on Whyte, offers tasty slices every time. Best Pizza Edmonton Journal, 1996, 97; Edmonton Journal 4-star rating. Take advantage of their free delivery. \$

Miami Pizza (84240198-St., 433-0723) Edmonton's famous pizza since 1985 offers tasty home-made pizza. Drive-in delivery. \$

Park Lounge & Sports Bar (Franklin's Inn, 2016 Sherwood Dr., Sherwood Park, 467-1234) "None worth the trip." Sherwood Park's best pizza for over 15 years. Unbelievable daily specials to complement our full menu. \$-\$

Pharos Pizza (8708-109 St., 433-5205) World famous pizza since 1970. Made with fresh ingredients and no preservatives. Try our Pop eye, it's our speciality. We also offer small dishes for individuals. \$

A fantasy day for a galloping gourmet

By JENNIFER COCKRALL-KING



WHERE WOULD YOU GO if you had only one day to "do it all"—food-wise, that is? You could eat in your favourite restaurants, shop at your favourite stores, and hangout in your favourite cafés. Call it a food fantasy day. It might include some of the new, exciting places that opened up in '98 or those perennial favourite foodie hangouts which seem to get better every year. Of course, everyone would have a different itinerary, but here's how I would spend my food fantasy day in Edmonton.

I'd wake up early, knowing that I had a lot of ground to cover in just one day. In my huge suite at La Bohème Bed and Breakfast, their Great Escape package is a total bargain: a tray would arrive with an assortment of buttery croissants and petit pains au chocolat from Alain Patissier. There would also be a carafe of nutty Kauai coffee, freshly roasted by the bean gurus at Java Jive Coffee Roasters. Now that's a good start to a day.

Then, off I'd go to Old Strathcona to restock the pantry, first to the market to pick up a lemon loaf, some dips and spreads from Gourmet Away and some of Warren Baird's River Valley Syrups. While in the neighbourhood, I'd replenish my hot sauce supply at Fire Eaters. While I am sometimes deceived by clever labeling, I always come back to Barn Burner sauces, made right here in Edmonton.

By 10 a.m., Tree Stone Bakery is open, just in time for me to pick up their French sourdough, warm and fresh out of the oven. After a quick stop at Paddy's Cheese Market and the Italian Centre Shop for some balsamic vinegar, olive oil and olives, I'd have the makings of a nice, late afternoon Mediterranean snack. Next door, at Tra Amici, I would sample a cup of their Torrefazione coffee and a scoop of homemade gelato.

To take the chill off (it's only a food fantasy day, not a weather fantasy day), lunch would be a giant bowl of vermicelli noodle soup at

stones I've seen in San Francisco, Vancouver or any other big food town. 40 d'fferent pepper grinders, 19 different rolling pins, the best of European style and every weird and wonderful kitchen device you'll ever have occasion to use.

For some fresh fruit and produce, I'd make a quick stop at Nature Boy organic grocer and Debaji's before being shopped out. A pit stop at either The Black Dog or O'Byrne's would be the perfect antidote to my afternoon of power shopping. Next, I'd head down Whyte Avenue for a taste of the Big Easy at Dadeo. I'd likely have the Combo Dadeo. I usually do. However, the day wouldn't be complete without Hardware Grill's signature dessert: warm gingerbread cake with caramel sauce, mango ice cream and a rhubarb-saskatoon compote.

Once back at home, I'd curl up in a chair to read Jeffrey Steinhardt's *The Man Who Ate Everything* (I know how you feel, Jeffrey). Reflecting on the day, I'd likely lament that fact that one day was not enough. Edmonton has so many great places to eat; some of them are cheap and charming, some of them are expensive but worth every penny. If I had to do it again, I could easily fill up a whole new day with entirely different places, and arrive home with my palate equally satisfied.

Jennifer Cockrall-King is a regular food writer for Vue Weekly.

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party favours
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alternative

BUDDYS DANCE PUB 10112-124 St.,
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SAT aft. Pool Tournaments. •Every TUES
Buddys Dance Pub.

FIRST NIGHT FESTIVAL

D o w n -
town Ed-
monton.
THU 31:
Eaton Centre: Tippy Agojo.

H2O LIQUID BAR 10044-
82 Ave., 433-5794.
•Every FRI-SAT: Maxi-
mum R & B real R & B/
Rock & Roll/Garage and related
from the 50s to almost recent.

LUSH 1003A-102 St., 424-2851.
•Every TUE: Hot New Indie & Alt Rock
with DJ Pepper. •Every WED: Bronx
Night-Retrobution with DJ Hurricane.
•Every THU: Mad Cow-British Music
with DJ Jesse. •Every FRI: In the
Velvet Underground, Funkalicious.
•Every SAT: Groovy Train. SAT 2: Spilt
Milk.

THE MARQ 10018-105 St., 415-5084.
•Every THU: Gothic Industrial. •Every
FRI Club Classics. •Every SAT Elevate.
•Every SUN: Pyjama party.

MICKEY FINN'S 2nd Fl., 10511A-82
Ave., 439-9852. •Everyday 'till 8 pm:
Happy Hour. So What Art You Waitin'
for? •Every SUN: Open Stage Hosted
by Everett LaRoi. THU 31: Molly's
Reach

NEW CITY LIKWID LOUNGE 10161-112
St., 413-4578. •Every SUN: Concept;
Edmonton DJ's. •Every WED: Smirnoff
Swing Cabaret. •Every THU: Bad Hair
Day. THU 31: (the big room—the
Suburbs): the Real Mackenzies, Mad
Bomber Society, Choke. (In the Small
Room): the Molestics.

**PAPERBOYS—FISH & CHIPS EGGROLLS
& ART** 9965 Whyte Ave., 431-0865.
•Every WED: Jazz.

THE POWER PLANT U of A Campus, Sub
info/ticket centre, 492-8309. THU 7
(8 pm): Karaoke Night. SAT 9: Battle
of the Bands.

The 10 best of everything



By GLENYS SWITZER

10. Best restaurant: Le Charles Mansion (not Charles Mansion!) on Whyte Ave. Great food, amazing surroundings—a must for any visual-type people who like to eat and look at the same time.

9. Best place to be: Manifesto Culture Counter, for comfort, friends, dialogue and peace.

8. Best activity: Drawing nudes.

7. Best models: Robert with flowers, Phil and his collar, Theresa in lace and Suzanne with her scarves.

6. Best video: Koks i Kullsen. (No, it's not about cocks—well, maybe in a way) A very interesting Danish film; translated, the title means *Ladies on the Rocks*.

5. Best feeling and sound: The crunch of snow beneath my moccasins.

4. Best food and drink: Warm water and Wheat Thin Crackers (with butter); the perfect snack, Grasda!

3. Best vice: Smoking. Got a light?

2. Best movie play: *The Black Rider*. (But I liked the costumes and make-up more than the acting and the singing.)

1. Best CD: Liz Phair's whitechocolate-spaceegg, just another "psychocomatric sister running around without a cash".

Glenys Switzer is Vue Weekly's Office Manager and Listings Editor.

REBAR 10551-82 Ave., 433-3600.

- Every SUN: DJ Big DaDa, alternative.
- Every MON: DJ Chuck Rock, requests.
- Every TUE: DJ Chuck, rock & ska.
- Every WED: DJ Big Dada, alternative. •Every THU: Level 1: Davey James & Code Red, hardtimes/techno/house; Level 2: Flashback DJ Mike, techno/rock/alternative; Level 2: Davey James & Code Red with guests, house/techno. •Every SAT: Level 1: DJ Mike, techno/rock/alternative etc.; Level 2: DJ Davey James, the After Party. THU 31: (upstairs) No Frills New Year.

REV 10030-102 St., 423-7820. THU 31: Hellbound: L.A.M.S., Las Vegas Crypt Keepers, Broken Nose, Dustbowl.

ROAD HOUSE 15540 Stony Plain Rd., 483-1100. •WED open stage 8:00 hosted by Joe Metal, 905 2005 (Jam night).

THE ROOST Private Member's Club, 10345-104 St., 426-3150. •Every MON: DJ Big Daddy. •Every TUE: DJ Bryan the Big Mac. •Every WED: DJ Latin Lover. •Every THU: DJ Dark Daddy. •Every FRI: Down-DJ Weena Love. •Every SAT: Up-DJ Alvaro. •Every SAT: Down-DJ, James. •Every SAT: Up-DJ Code Red. •Every SUN: DJ Who the #! is Alice.

ROSE BOWL DOWNTOWN 10111-117 St., 482-2589. •Every SUN: Jam.

SUBLIME 10147-104 St., Bsmt., 905-8024. •Every FRI: DJ Raws. •Every SAT: Locks Garant.

blues & roots

THE BILLIARD CLUB 200, 10505-82 St. Dec. 31: New Year's Eve Party! With Clear Isabel.

BLACK DOG 10425-82 Ave., 439-1082. •Every SAT (3-6 pm): Hair of the Dog. SAT 2: Mike McDonald. THU 31: Old Reliable, Shem, DJ Cyber Sonik.

BLUES ON WHYTE 10329-82 Ave., 439-5058. •Every SAT aft: Blues Jam. THU 31-SAT 2: the House of Payne. SUN 3: Cool Blue Method. MON 4-SAT 9: Bobby Cameron. SUN 10: Cool Blue Method.

THE BLUZ CAFE 111, 390 St. Albert Rd... Mission Hills Plaza, St. Albert. •Every MON-THU: Open Stage. •Every SAT & SUN afternoon Blues & Jazz Bands.

BREADSTICK CAFE ON WHYTE 10159-82 Ave., 430-7779. •Every SUN: 2 pm acoustic open stage hosted by Drew Walker.

CAPPUCCINO AFFAIR 8-Sioux Rd., Sherwood Park. •Open stage every THU (7:30-11 pm), for musicians, comics and poets, hosted by Ron Taylor.

CHATEAU BEIRUT 12323 Stony Plain Rd., 482-5442. •Every SAT: Live Middle Eastern Music.

CITY MEDIA CLUB 6005-103 St., 433-5183. •Every FRI: Dart Night. SUN

TIX ON THE SQUARE - COMMUNITY ARTS INFORMATION CENTRE OFFERING ALL TICKETMASTER SERVICES, ARTS INFORMATION AND RUSH (HALF PRICE) TICKETS AS AVAILABLE IN THE HEART OF THE NEW ARTS DISTRICT IN CHANCERY HALL, MAIN FLOOR. INFO: 420-1757/988-3873

HOT LINE RUSH TIX...

•Citadel Theatre presents *The King and I*, held over until Jan. 10! Rush TIX available for some performances.

ADVANCE TIX ...

- The Willan Chorale and the Cantus Firmus Boys' Choir present Epiphany, a choral concert, Jan. 2, 1999, 7:30 pm at Knox Metropolitan Church.

- Leave it to Jane Theatre presents *Wonderful Town*, Jan. 8-17 at the Kaasa Theatre.

- FIRST NIGHT BUTTONS & TIX NOW AVAILABLE AT TIX ON THE SQUARE. Buttons are \$8, TIX are \$2.

TIX On the Square also sells tickets for all TicketMaster events. Open daily except Sundays. Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Tue-Fri 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.; Sat 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

10: Bluegrass Gospel Concert. Fran Sinclair and Johnny Wanandy, with Little Old Opry.

CLUB MACARENA 10816-95 St., 425-5338. •Every SUN: Jammin' & Madness (Open Jam).

CRYSTAL LOUNGE 10336 Jasper Ave., 426-7521. •Every WED: DJ Spilt Milk & Guests. •Every SUN: Laff City amateur Comedy Showcase.

FESTIVAL PLACE 100 Festival Way, Sherwood Park, 449-907 (3378). WED 6: Singer/Songwriters Series: Maria Dunn, Wendy McNeil & Paul Bromley.

FIDDLER'S ROOST 8906-99 St., 439-9788, 461-1358. THU 31: New Years Eve Banquet & Dance (adv. tix only).

FIRST NIGHT FESTIVAL

Downtown Edmonton. THU 31: Festival Rovers: Banjo Busters, Darrin Hagen, Commerce Place Rotunda (6:45-11:15); La Belle Epoque & S.M.A.K.! Tucker Amphitheatre, Citadel (6:30-11 pm); Miguel Neri, Society for the Retired & Semi-Retired (7:11:20 pm); Bounce with Dean McKenzie, Peter & Mary.

- Winspear Rehearsal Hall: Bill Bourne, Lester Quitzau, Maria Dunn, Jennifer Gibson, Maren Ord. •Westin Hotel: Robert Burton Hubele, Twang! •City Hall: Amelia Kaminski. •Edmonton Centre: Rwanzen.

FOX & HOUNDS NIGHTCLUB 10125-109 St., 423-2913. •Every SAT: MUSICITY/ALLSTAR Show "Original Music Discovery TV Project". •Every WED: Alternative Night with DJ Wic and DJ Fern.

FULL MOON FOLK CLUB Bonnie Doon Hall, 9240-93 St., SAT 9 (8 pm): Cindy Church.

GOLD BAR COMMUNITY LEAGUE 4620-105 Ave., 433-6209. THU 31: New Years Eve Dinner & Dance: El Nino, D'Arcy Greaves Trio.

GREAT CANADIAN BAGEL 8623-112 St., 434-0460. •Every SUN: Acoustic Open Stage, host - Paul Levens (7:30-11:00).

INSONMPIA BAGEL 5552 Calgary Tr. S., 414-1743. •Every FRI: jazz & blues: Wide Awake & Dreaming (9pm-1am). •Every SAT: jazz & alternative: The Method (9pm-1am).

JESS LEE'S ON JASPER Mayfair, 10815 Jasper Ave., 414-6211. •Every MON-SAT: Live Blues/Country During Happy Hour. •Every SUN (aft): Blues/Country Jam Session.

LA HABANA 10238-104 St., 424-5939. Every WED: Latin Dance Lessons. •Every THU: Dance Party. •Every FRI & SAT: Los Caminantes. THU 31: Los Caminantes, Jose Jose.

LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL Behind Telus Field, 421-7577. •Every WED (8 pm): Open Stage - hosted by Randy Smallman.

MISTY ON WHYTE 104588-82 Ave., 433-3512. •Every MON: Open Stage Hosted by Terry.

O'BRYNES IRISH PUB 10616-82 Ave., 414-6766. THU 31: New Year's Eve Celtic style Northwest Passage.

PUCK'S SPORTS BAR 11845 Capilano Dr. S.B., 471-1231. •Every FRI & SAT: Blues night.

SIDETRACK CAFE 10333-112 St., 421-1326. THU 31: New Year's Eve Swing Soiree, the Rockin' Highliners. FRI 1-SAT 2: Eddie Shaw & the Wolfgang. MON 4: closed. TUE 5: Swing Nite: the Peter Franck Band. WED 6: CKUA R&B Nite: the Rault Brothers Band, guest: Rust Reed. THU 7: the Rusty Reed Band. FRI 8: Feast. SAT 9: Big Breakfast Boogie Band.

classical

ALBERTA COLLEGE Muttart Hall, 10050 Macdonald Dr., 438-3179. SUN 10: the 18th Annual Northern

TUESDAYS
25¢ HIBALLS
& DRAFT

Good For ONE Free Entry
Until 10 pm

THUNDERBIRD
9920 - 62 Ave. Ph: 433-3663

Vue

1998 1998 1998
info 433-3600

LISTINGS

Alberta Concerto Competition.

EDMONTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Winspear Centre, 428-1414. THU 31 (7 pm): Millennium Minus One: Jerrald Dybuk Trio, the Kit Kat Club. FRI 1 (2:30 pm): Salute to Vienna: Paul Edelmann, baritone, Birgit Beer, soprano. SUN 10 (2 pm): Symphony on Sunday: A Time for Cello, Tanya Prochazka.

FIRST NIGHT FESTIVAL

Downtown Edmonton.

THU 31: Shaw Conference Centre.

Salon 11 & 12: Alberta Opera Touring Association.

Commerce Place:

La Bella Epoque. •Manulife Place:

Quintessence.

KNOX METROPOLITAN CHURCH

109 St. & 83 Ave., 450-2428. SAT 2 (7:30 pm): Epiphany! Liturgical Music for a New Age: the Willan Chorale and the Cantus Firmus Boys' Choir.

WINSPEAR CENTRE

481-8021. FRI 1 (2:30 & 8 pm): Salute to Vienna.

club nights

1001 NIGHTS 10018-105 St., 448-1001. •Every FRI-SAT: R&B, Hip Hop, Retro with DJ Tech.

BACK ROOM VODKA BAR

10324-82 Ave., upstairs. •Every THU: DJ Dragon. •Every MON: Live Music.

BUDDYS DANCE PUB

10116-124 St. •Every THU: D.J. Albaro.

CLUB 2000

10812 Kingsway Ave., 479-4266. Top 40, dance, techno.

•Every TUE: Ladies Night. •Every THU: Game Night.

THE COCKTAIL CLUB

2940 Calgary Trail South, 490-1188. •Every SUN: Sunday Night Live! •Every WED:

Fashion Auction previews. Live R & B.

DEVILINS

10507-82 Ave., 437-7489. •Every WED: Martini 101.

FARGOS

10307-82 Ave., 433-4526. •Every SUN at 8:30 live Yuk Yuk's comedy night.

GALILEO CLUB/RESTAURANT SPORTS BAR

10108-103 St., 414-6896. Every TUE: DJ Mad Max. Every WED: Karaoke.

GALLERY LOUNGE

Mayfield Inn, 16615-109 Ave., 484-0821. •Every THU-SAT: Dan Daniels plays sounds from the '50s, '60s, '70s.

GREENHOUSE

13103 Fort Rd., 472-9898. •Every WED: Chris Knight from Power 92. •Every THU: Ladies Night.

THE HIGHGRUN

4926-98 Ave., 440-2233. Every THU Night Battle of the bands. THU 31: New Year's Eve Party. •The Joint Chiefs. FRI 1-SAT 2: Joint Chiefs.

IRON HORSE EATERY & WATERING HOLE

8101-103 St., 438-1907. •Every SUN: live music, full menu until close. THU 31: New Year's Eve Bash: Godiva.

JESS LEE'S ON JASPER

Mayfair, 10815 Jasper Ave., 414-6211. •Every FRI-SAT: Singles Night.

KINGS KNIGHT PUB

9221-34 Ave., 433-2599. •Every THU: Thursday Nite Raw with The Party Hogs showcase Edmonton's New Bands. THU 31: Joe Rockhead.

LUSH

10030A-102 St., 424-2851. •Every TUE: Hot-New Indie & Alt Rock with DJ Pepper. •Every WED: Bronx Night-Retrobution with DJ Hurricane. •Every THU: Mad Cow-British Music with DJ Jesse. •Every FRI: In the Velvet Underground Funkalicious. •Every SAT: Groovy Train.

THE MARQ

10018-105 St., 415-5084. •Every THU: Gothic Industrial. •Every FRI Club Classics. •Every SAT Elevate. •Every SUN: Pyjama party.

ORLANDO'S LOUNGE

15163-121 St., 457-1195. Daily happy hour/food specials from 12-7 pm (4-7 pm Sun.)

Every WED & SUN: Karaoke nights.

Don't miss the unbeatable specials on THU nights including FREE pool!

THU 31: Orlando's New Year's Eve Bash.

REBAR

10551-82 Ave., 433-3600. •Every SUN: (downstairs) DJ Big Dada, alternative. •Every MON: (downstairs) DJ Chuck Rock, requests. •Every TUE: (downstairs) DJ Chuck Rock, Swing, ska, punk rock. •Every WED: DJ Big Dada, alterna-

tive. •Every THU: (downstairs) Hardtimes; (upstairs) Goodtimes; DJ Mikee, classics. •Every FRI: (downstairs) Open Table; (upstairs) DJ Mikee. •Every SAT: (downstairs) DJ Mikee, techno/house/alt/rock; (upstairs) DJ: Davey James, the After Party. THU 31: No Frills New Year RED'S WEM, 481-6420. •Every week day bowling, 11 am-6 pm. •Every SAT: Red's Rebels, 10 pm. •Every SUN: Hipno-Sundays, 9:30 pm. •Every TUE: Toonie Tuesday. THU 31: New Year's Mega Bash

THE ROOST Private Member's Club 10345-104 St., 426-3150. •Every MON: DJ Big Daddy. •Every TUE: DJ Bryan the Big Mac. •Every WED: DJ Latin Lover. •Every THU: DJ Dark Daddy. •Every FRI: Up-DJ Alvaro. •Every SAT: Down-DJ James. •Every SAT: Up-DJ Code Red. •Every SUN: DJ Who the @!* is Alice.

SPORTSMAN'S CLUB 5706-75 St., 413-8333. •Every Night: Dancing with DJ G.

TIMER'S NIGHTCLUB 12345-118 Ave., 454-5396. Every SUN, open stage 4-9 pm. Club dance following. Jason and the Guru, DJ Bobby Bree. Every FRI & SAT: DJ Bobby Bree.

URBAN LOUNGE 8111-105 St., 439-3388. •Every WED Jam & Open Stage, all styles & musicians welcome. •Every THU: Thursday Night Fever. •Every FRI: Serious live music. •Every SAT: Live Music. (9 pm). THU 31-SAT 2: Mustard Smile.

THE VAULT 10089 Jasper Ave., 423-LOCK. Every THU: Swing night plus swing lessons. FRI open at 4 pm.

THE VIPER ROOM 10148 - 105 St., 420-0695. Doors open 9:00 PM; free cover before 10:00 PM. •Every THU: Urban Night. •Every FRI: Viper Night welcomes UofA and College Students. •Every SAT: Ladies Night.

WHISKY NIGHTCLUB 10148-105 St., 420-0695. •Every TUES: Comedy Night. •Every THU: Wet T-Shirt Contest. •Every FRI: R & B Hip Hop. Every SAT: Top 40 dance.

ZONE 10089 Jasper Ave., 426-5535. THU 31: New Year's Eve Gala & Grand-opening of the Zone.

country

DRAKE HOTEL 3945-118 Ave., 479-3929. •Every FRI-SAT: Second Chance Band. •Every SUN aft: Second Chance Band.

JESS LEE'S ON JASPER Mayfair, 10815 Jasper Ave., 414-6211. •Every MON-SAT: Live Blues/Country During Happy Hour. •Every SUN aft: Blues/Country Jam Session.

ONE EYED JACKS PUB & GRUB 13042-50 St. •Every FRI-SAT: live music.

PONCHO'S PUB 9006-132 Ave., 473-7131. •Every FRI live music/DJ dance. •Every SAT Karaoke/DJ with Brenda.

RUNDLE PARK Shuttle bus between Abbotsfield Mall and Rundle Park, 7:30-11 pm, 496-7275. THU 31(7-10 pm): New Year's Eve Country Countdown.

WILDHORSE SALOON Continental Inn, THU 31-SAT 2: Marv Machura and the Pembina River Band.

WILD WEST 12912-50 St., 476-3388. •Every WED & THU Free dancing lessons. •Every SAT aft: Jam 4:30-7 pm. THU 31-FRI 1: Five Wheel Drive.

jazz

BACKROOM VODKA BAR 10324 Whyte Ave., 436-4418. Every MON: The Valium Lovers. Every TUE: Wide Awake and Dreaming. Every THU: DJ Dragon.

BLACK DOG 10425-82 Ave., 439-1082. •Every SUN: Root Down-Live Acid Jazz.

DEVLIN'S 10507-82 Ave., 437-7489. •Every MON: Kiss & Tell-Live Jazz Trio. •Every TUE: Fina Estampa. •Every THU: acid jazz. •Every SUN: Melba Apartment Quartet.

FIRST NIGHT FESTIVAL Downtown Edmonton. THU 31: Dean McKenzie, Jazz Poet.

GRANT MACEWAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE John L. Haar Theatre, Jasper Place Campus, 10045-156 St., 497-4436. FRI 8 (8 pm): An Evening of Showcase Band: Featuring Jack Semple.

INSOMNIA PUB 5552 Calgary Tr. S., 414-1743. •Every FRI: jazz & blues. Wide Awake & Dreaming (9pm-1am) •Every SAT: jazz & alternative: The Method (9pm-1am)

LA RONDE Crowne Plaza, 10111 Bellamy Hill, 428-6611. •Top 40, dine & dance. •Every THU (7:30-11 pm): John Fisher (vocal, flute, piano). •Every FRI & SAT (8-11 pm): John Fisher (keys, vocal) & Christine BECQ (vocals).

THE LONDON BRIDGE PUB & EATERY 7704-104 St., Calgary Trail South, 431-1748. THU 31: A.J.

PRADERA RESTAURANT Westin Hotel •Jazz Brunch every SUN (10 am-2 pm). THU 31 (8 pm-1 am): Marleigh & Mueller.

REMEDI 8631-109 St., 433-3096 THU 31 (8 pm): Funk Me All Night Long New Year: J. Cairns Band.

ROSE & CROWN Sheraton Grande Edmonton Hotel, 10235-101 St., 441-3036. •Every WED-SAT: Lyle Hobbs. THU 31: Lyle Hobbs

WINSPEAR CENTRE 481-8021. THU 31 (7 pm): Millennium Minus One: Jerrald Dybuk Trio, the Kit Kat Club.

ZENARIS'S ON 1ST 10117-101 St., 425-6151. Closed Jan. 1. FRI 8: Tilo Paiz.

piano bars

LION'S HEAD PUB Coast Terrace Inn, 4440 Calgary Trail South, 437-6010 THU 31: Tony Dizon Beach Party SAT 2: Tony Dizon.

ROSE & CROWN Sheraton Grande Edmonton Hotel, 10235-101 St., 441-3036. •Every week (9-1): Tony Poirier. Every THU-SAT: Lyle Hobbs Entertainer Extraordinaire.

SHERLOCK HOLMES WEM Bourbon St., 444-1752. THU 31-SAT 2: Sam August. SUN 3: Newbie Night with Spirit of the Atlantic. MON 4-9 pm: Tim Becker. SUN 10: Newbie Night with Spirit of the Atlantic.

SHERLOCK HOLMES DOWNTOWN Rice Howard Way, 426-7784. THU 31-SAT 2: Tim Becker.

SHERLOCK HOLMES Capilano Mall, 1136, 5004-98 Ave., 463-7788. THU 31-Karaoke. SAT 2: Brian Calman. SAT 9: Steve Ashley

SHERLOCK HOLMES ON WHYTE 10341-82 Ave., 433-9676. •Every THU: Celtic nights. THU 31: Celtic Night. FRI 1-SAT 2: Duff Robison. TUE 5-WED 6 & FRI 8-SAT 9: Richard Blaze. THU 7: Celtic Night.

DE VINES RESTAURANT & LOUNGE 9712-111 St., 482-6402. •Every SAT night (8:30-12): Live acoustic light jazz, Mark Baily.

pop & rock

BIG DADDY'S 4635 Calgary Trail N., 436-2700. •Every FRI: Jazz, SAT 2 & 8 & SUN 9: Helen Magorowski.

BILLY BUDD'S 9839-63 Ave., 438-1148. •Every TUE: Karaoke. •Every

David Gobell
Taylor and
Wendy
Grönestedt are
pleased to
announce their
engagement.

**The wedding is
scheduled for
August 13,
1999.**

Jeg elsker deg
forevarden min.

**What do you want
to Vue today?**

FIRST NIGHT
Downtown Edmonton. THU 31:
Dean McKenzie, Jazz Poet.

BUTTONS & TIX
AVAILABLE

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THE LONDON BRIDGE PUB & EATERY 7704-104 St., Calgary Trail South, 431-1748. THU 31: Head Long Walkers

DANNY HOCKSAW'S PUB & GRUB 29 Ave. 89 St., 469-4433. THU 31: Mr. Potato Head

DRAGON HEAD Lynberg Shopping Centre, 7522-178 St. •Every FRI SAT Classic Rock Dance Party. THU 31: New Year's Eve Party

ELEPHANT & CASTLE Whyte Ave. •Every THU, Open stage, hosted by Jose Oiseau

FIRST NIGHT FESTIVAL Downtown Edmonton

REMY 8631-109 St., 433-3096 THU 31 (8 pm): Funk Me All Night Long New Year: J. Cairns Band.

GASOLINE ALLEY 10993-124 St. 482-6382. Every TUE: Retro Night DJ Lefty. Every THU: Wet T-Shirt Contest. Every SUN: The Big Cheese.

J.J.'S PUB 13160-118 Ave., 451 9180. THU 31: Sykosematik.

J & R BAR & GRILL 4003-106 St., 436-4395. THU 31: Charlie.

KING'S HORSE PUB 4211-106 St., 462-4627. •Every MON: bar/restaurant industry appreciation night THU 31: New Year's Eve with Yves Lacroix. SAT 2: Yves Lacroix

KEEGAN'S PUB 3458-99 St., 435 4065. •Every MON Karaoke.

MARIO'S 4990-92 Ave., 466-8652. •Every THU-SAT: Rare Occasion.

ROAD HOUSE 15540 Stony Plain Rd., 483-1100. •WED open stage 8:00 hosted by Joe Matai, 905 2005 (Jam night), THU 31-SAT 2: Side show Bob. THU 7-SAT 9: Jesus Chrysler.

SHERLOCK HOLMES DOWNTOWN Rice Howard Way, 426-7784. THU 31-SAT 2: Sam August. SUN 3: Newbie Night with Spirit of the Atlantic. MON 4-9 pm: Tim Becker.

SHAW CONFERENCE CENTRE 451 8000. THU 31: Headstones, XI House, Nickelback

THUNDERDOME 9920 Argyll Rd., 433 1000. •Every THU: Ladies Night. •Every TUES: Bogie Nites: The Best of 60s, 70s & 80s Retro. THU 31 New Year's Eve Bash

TIMERS NITE CLUB 12345-118 Ave 454-5396. •Party and Dance 5 days, week with DJ Bobby Breeze. THU 31 New Year's Eve: Crossroads & DJ Bobby Breeze.

DE VINES RESTAURANT & LOUNGE 9712-111 St., 482-6402. •Every THU & FRI night (8:30-12): Live acoustic, 40s to 80s pop, Damian Gregory.

WILD HORSE SALOON 16625 Stony Plain Rd., 484-7751. •Every SUN & MON: karaoke. THU-SAT: live entertainment.

WINDSOR BAR & GRILL 11712-82 Ave., 433-7800. Every TUES: Canadian Music Night. Every SAT: live music.

MON, WED-SAT: live entertainment

BOILERS PUB 10220-103 St., 425-4767, 440-6062. •Every SUN: Sunday Showcase. THU 31: Cold Seat, CD & the Fix Mix. THU 31: Cold Feet. THU 31: Head Long Walkers

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

New Year

AWESOME GIVEAWAYS

\$1.75 HI-BALLS

ALL NIGHT

\$2.75 CANADIAN PINTS

IN THE SUBURBS

REAL MUSCLEZIES

BAD BOBBY SUCES

CHOKE

IN THE SUBURBS

AWESOME GIVEAWAYS

\$1.75 HI-BALLS

ALL NIGHT

\$2.75 CANADIAN PINTS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

New Year</b

art galleries

shows openings/events/announcements

EDMONTON ART GALLERY 2 Sir Winston Churchill Sq., 422-6223.

•**THE POOLE FOUNDATION GIFT:** Permanent Collection Exhibition. •**BRUSH WITH...** North American traditions of large abstract paintings which assert the character of the brush stroke being the integral part of the painting. Until Aug. 31. •Contemporary Art Issues Reading Group: Every second THU, 7 pm.

•Envisioned Spaces: Lectures on Contemporary Architecture: •**JUST FOR THE LOVE OF IT:** The Shirley and Peter Savage collection of Canadian Prints. Until Jan. 17. •**BEAUTY AND THE BANAL:** Janet Cardiff, Chris Cran, Lesley Menzies, Lyndal Osborne, Laura Vickerson, John Will, Agnes Wyatt, how we assign aesthetic and cultural value to things around us. Until Jan. 17. •**KITCHEN 2:** Vera Gartley: The Gap. •**NOVEL SCULPTURE:** By Agnieszka Matejko and Larry Andreoff, a 24 foot by 8 foot maze that visitors can walk through, opening to coincide with the First Night Festival on Dec. 31. Until end of Feb. (weather pending). •Art Rental Gallery, Margaret Brine Gallery, Lower Level EAG.: •**SMALL ART 1998-99:** Annual Christmas Small Art Sale. Until Jan. 9.

FAB GALLERY U of A, 1-1 Fine Arts Bldg., 112 St., 89 Ave., 492-2081. DETAILS FROM THE BIG PICTURE: Paintings by Richard Smoinski. Opening reception: THU, Jan. 7, 7-10 pm. Jan. 5-17.

FIRST NIGHT FESTIVAL'S 3RD ANNUAL ICE CARVING COMPETITION Sir Winston Churchill Sq. Carving contests until Dec. 31, 3 pm. Awards ceremony at 5 pm. On New Year's Eve the ice carvings will be lit up

THE FRINGE GALLERY 85M1, 10516 Whyte Ave., 432-0240. •NEW FIGURATIVE WORKS: Acrylic paintings on board by Doug Jamila. Until Dec. 31. •TRAVELS WITH GRIEF & THE EXPERT WITNESS: Mixed media figurative works by Linda Carreiro & Richard Smolinski. Jan. 2-30.

HARCOURT HOUSE GALLERY 3rd Floor, 10215-112 St., 426-4180. RECENT WORKS: Fiona Connell, layering materials abstracted works. Jan. 7 Feb. 6.

Top 10 good things about cold weather



By DAVID LAING

1. You have a good excuse to wear three pairs of pants at the same time. 2. It can only get warmer...in April. 3. There's a lot more room to walk on Whyte Ave.

4. If you go to the bathroom outside, you can make pee-sicles.

5. Every morning you can re-enact the first half of *The Empire Strikes Back*.

6. Good news for smokers: cold air kills cancer.

7. People don't have to look at your pasty white legs.

8. Television gets a hell of a lot better—even though it's the same stuff they show in the summer.

9. Freezer burn on your face could pass for a nice tan.

10. Hell doesn't sound too bad after all.

David Laing is *Vue Weekly's* administrative assistant.

LISTINGS

•**THE FRONT ROOM: INNATELY HUMAN:** Anthea Stewart & Sam Weber, images of and illusions to the body. Jan. 7-Feb. 6. Opening reception, THU, Jan. 7, 7:30-10 pm.

PROFILES GALLERY 110 Grandin Park Plaza, 22 Sir Winston Churchill Ave., St. Albert, 460-4310. COLOUR EXPRESSIONS: Paintings by Angela Grootelaar. Jan. 6-30. Opening reception, WED, Jan. 6, 7-9 pm. Artist Lecture: WED, Jan. 13, 7:30-9:30 pm.

SCOTT GALLERY 10411-124 St., 488-3619. Recent works by gallery artists: Maureen Harvey, Barbara Atkins, Robert Sinclair, Neil Patterson, Fancine Gravel and Nancy Day. Also works by John Snow and Vladimir Horik. Jan. 2-19.

THE STUDIO GALLERY 143 Grandin Park Plaza, 22 Sir Winston Churchill Ave., 460-5990. A co-operative work-place shared by eight St. Albert artists. Display of current works by 9 St. Albert Artists: Pat Wagenveld, Helen Smith, Louise Crawford, Alandra Allabrant, Dorothy Forbes, Carol Yake, Mona Anderson-Appas, Susanne Loutas. Closed until Jan. 3. WED, Jan. 6, Art Walk, 7-9 pm.

art galleries

ART BEAT GALLERY & FRAME Pelland Place, 8 Mission Ave., St. Albert, 459-3679. www.artbeat.ca. Steel sculpture by Eduno M. Sousa; alabaster, soapstone carvings by Albert Adams; raku pottery by Elke Blodgett; stain glass by Bernard de Man; water colours by Kenneth E. Brown; Murray Allen and Jim Brager; pastels by W. Daniel Bagan; acrylics by Andrew Raszewski; and abstracts by Yvonne Rivard. Miniature pieces by gallery artists: Nick Prins, Jeanne Findlay, Carol Hama Chang, Pat Wagenveld and Sophia Podryhula Shaw.

THE ARTISTS MARKETPLACE Westmount shopping Centre, 111 Ave., Groat Rd., 908-3020. Local artists on site daily. Now featuring: Now featuring: Rural heritage water colours by Ivan Solisny.

ARTRA ART—THE GALLERY 15607-100A Ave., 489-1028. Work by Cindy Barratt, Frances Alty-Arcott, Tom Love. Thru Dec.

BEARCLAW GALLERY 10403-124 Street, 482-1204. Special selection of works by gallery artists including George Littlechild, Dale Auger and Maxine Noel. Thru Dec.

BUGERA KMET 12310 Jasper Ave. NEW DIMENSIONS: Prairie landscape paintings by Terry Fenton, New sculpture by Douglas Bentham.

CENTRE D'ARTS VISUELS DE L'ALBERTA 20, 8527 rue Marie-Anne-Gabourie (91 St.), 461-3427. •CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION: Paintings, etchings, water colours, art and crafts of members. Until Jan. 13.

EDMONTON GENERAL HOSPITAL 11111 Jasper Ave., Main Floor, 930-5611, ext. 6475. FACING AIDS: A senior High School Art Exhibition: A collaborative project between Victoria School and Latitude 53 Society and Caritas Art Enrichment Program to raise awareness of issues surrounding AIDS. Until Jan. 15.

GALLERY DE JONGE 27022A Hwy 16, Spruce Grove, 962-9505. Group exhibition, gallery artists.

GREY NUNS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL AND HEALTH CENTRE 34 Ave. 66 St., 930-5611, ext. 6475. 0 level Corridor: SHARING VIEWPOINTS: Paintings by Madeline Delaney, E. Jean Richards, Moira English, Barbara Hodgeson, Ethel E. Grant, Larry Judge, Sunita Kumar, Wilf Walker. Until Feb. 9.

IML GALLERY 10822 Whyte Ave., 433-6834. GALLERY CHOICE: Works from resident artists, 1998. Closed on Mondays. Tues-Sat 10 am-6 pm, Thu 10 am-8 pm.

KAMENA GALLERY OF FRAMES 5718 104 St., 944-9497. kamena gallery.com. Originals & prints by Willie Wong, Gerry Thomas (Oilers photographs and giclee prints), Roybal, Daniel Campbell, Welti, Wong, Helena Ball, Kee Wong and Jak Martel.

LATITUDE 53 10137-104 St., 423-5353. EMERGING CURATORS SERIES: SPONTANEOUS COMPLICATION: Curated by Cindy Baker, a mail art exhibition. Until Jan. 23.

MANIFESTO 10043-102 St., 423-7801. SERIES UNREST: Photography by Megan Hillerd and BEAUTIFUL MEN FOR UGLY MEN: Pen and ink drawings by Sacha Gartner. Until Jan. 16.

MCMULLEN GALLERY U of A Hospital, 8440-112 St., 492-4211. LEGACY: The Work of Twelve Major Alberta Artists in the University of Alberta Hospital Permanent Collection: Includes works by Derek Besant Illingworth Kerr, Bill Laing, Francine Gravel, Janet Mitchell, Richard Yates, John Snow Harry Savage, Doug Haynes, Helen Mackin Grant Leier and Manwoman. Until Jan. 4.

MISERICORDIA HEALTH CENTRE 16940-87 Ave., 484-8811, ext. 6475. Dayward Corridor: THE PORTRAIT PROJECT: Paintings by Rhonda Harper Epp. Until Feb. 8. Northwest Corridor: BREAKING IN: BREAKING OUT: Works by Mary Sullivan Hofgrafe and Stella Kaufman.

MULTICULTURAL HERITAGE CENTRE 5415-51 St., Stony Plain, 963-2777. Generations Gallery: Annual Christmas Show and Sale: Borealis Group. Until Jan. 5. Gallery Restaurant: Sean Livingston: Photography, Tasmanian Caves. Until Jan. 4.

MUTTART CONSERVATORY 9626-96A St., 496-8755. ANGEL VOICES: Until Jan. 2.

PLANET INC CYBER CAFE 201, 10442-82 Ave., 433-9730, <http://www.compusmart.ca/bcbozena>. Art Exhibition, works by Michael V. Tkaczky.

ROWLES AND COMPANY LTD. Coopers & Lybrand Tower, Mezz, Level 10310-103 St., 426-4055. Works in oil by Rob Von Eschen, works by Pfammuller and George Schwindt, works I acrylic by Dale Auger, Steve Mitts, David Seghers, Elaine Tweedy, John Freeman. Watercolours by Sigrid Gehrels, Eva Bartel, Glenda Beaver, Barb Brooks. Artworks in glass, soapstone & antler. Oxford Tower, 10235-101 St. Oils by Rob Von Eschen. Weston Hotel, The Pradera, 10135-100 St. Pastel Paintings by Audrey Pfammuller. The Hotel McDonald, The Harvest Room. Acrylics by Steve Mitts.

SNAP PRINT GALLERY 10137-104, back of Latitude 53, 423-1492. TERRA NOVA: Recent Etchings and mixed media prints by Tadeusz Warsynski. Until Jan. 23.

SPECIAL-T GALLERY 284 Saddleback Rd., 437-1192. MIXED PALETTE: Members of the Society of Western Canadian Artists. Until Jan. 15.

STRATHCONA PLACE ART GALLERY 10831 University Ave., 433-5807. Works by Don Winkelhafer, Alberta landscapes with wood, paper and pastels. Until Jan. 7.

VANDERLEELIE 10344-134 St., 452-0286. Group show gallery artists: painting by David Alexander, Gregory Hardy, Brent McIntosh, Wendy Skog and Scott Plear. Also ceramics from Holland by Renate Weidner, serigraphs by Harry Kiyooka, steel sculpture by Isla Burns and stone torsos by Evelyne Brader-Frank. Until Dec. 31.

ZIEGLER HUGHES GALLERY & SERENDIPITY FRAMING 9860-90 Ave., 433-0388. Group show by gallery artists. New work by Raymond Theriault, Derek Watts and Andrew Raszewski. Also showing Christians miniatures.

ART GALLERY & PORTFOLIOS ON-LINE KRISTEN ZUK <http://plaza.v-wave.com/gilan/art/kirsten.htm> Featuring sculptures by artist Kirsten Zuk.

SURREAL & FANTASY OIL PAINTINGS ON-LINE COSMIC HORIZONS <http://www.geocities.com/SoHo/Gallery/6298>.

dance

KOMPANY! Catalyst Theatre, 8529-103 St., 482-2252, 484-2579. Kompany! Kabaret! An evening of show stopping song and dance!!! Highlights from hit Kompany! productions: Shake, Rattle & Roll, Jazz Hot, and Life is a Cabaret! Sneak previews of new shows: Affairs of the Heart, and Jazzycracker. SAT, JAN. 9, 7 PM.

ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE 10137-104 St., 452-0286. BUG ROOM: NEW ARRIVALS: Permanent live invertebrate display, new arrivals from Malaysia. EGGS: A VIRTUAL EXHIBIT: A guide to the bird eggs of Alberta and around the world. Images, text, quizzes and egg humours tell you everything you could want to know about birds and eggs. Created by 11 young Canadians working in museums. www.pma.edmonton.ab.ca. BEARS IN TOWNTOWN: A festive stroll through a town full of toys. Until April 5.

REYNOLDS ALBERTA MUSEUM Wetaskiwin, Highway 13, 1-800-661-4726. Bicycles, cars, farm equipment... reflections of Alberta's transportation history. Open daily.

RUTHERFORD HOUSE 11153 Saskatchewan Dr., 427-3995, 422-2697. Costumed interpreters recreate daily household activities.

SHAW CONVENTION CENTRE Pedway Level, 9797 Jasper Ave., 424-3300. Canadian Country Music Hall of Honour: Who's who in the Canadian country music scene.

THE TELEPHONE HISTORICAL CENTRE 10437-83 Ave., 433-1010. Set in the original Old Strathcona Telephone Exchange Building (1912).

VALLEY ZOO 13315 Buena Vista Rd., 496-6911. Combining the fun of nursery rhymes with the beauty of animals. 9:30AM-6PM

film

GARNEAU 8712-109 St., 433-2212. World's Best Commercials, 1998. 14A, coarse language. Until Jan. 7.

METRO CINEMA Zeidler HALL, Citadel Theatre, 9828-101A Ave., 425-9212. THU 31 (continuously from 6:30-11 pm): Silent film classics with live piano accompaniment. Easy Street: One A.M.; The Rink; Cops; One Week; Convicts.

PRINCESS 10337 Whyte Ave., 462-1871. Life is Beautiful, (La Vita e Bella). (PG) Hold over until Jan. 7.

TIX  Buttons & Tix Available

SIDETRACK CAFE 10333-112 Street, 421-1326. Every SUN: Variety Night hosted by the Atomic Improv Co.

YUK YUKS WEM, 481-9926. Every WEDS: Hypnotist Sebastian Steel.

sports

HOCKEY — OILERS www.edmontonoilers.com, Skyreach. SUN

CITY HALL Sir Winston Churchill Square, City Rm. SUN 3 & 17 (1pm): 439-9827, Final Frontier Science Fiction Fan Society.

DEVONIAN BOTANIC GARDEN 5 km North

on Hwy 60, 987-3054. Authentic Japanese Garden, nature trail, 80 acres of connected gardens.

EDMONTON SPACE & SCIENCE CENTRE 451-3344. IMAX Theatre, Margaret Zeidler Star Theatre; Exhibits; Galleries; live science demonstrations. •A Carnival of Conundrums, ARITHMETRICKS: PERFECTLY PERPLEXING PUZZLES. The greatest math show on Earth! Until Jan. 3.

JOHN WALTER MUSEUM Kinsmen Park, 1901 House, Walterdale Hill, 496-2966. TIMBER TO TOWNSHIP: John Walter and the lumber Industry at the turn of the century.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY INTERPRETIVE CENTRE N. Legislature Grounds, pdwy, 427-7362. Visit Alberta's premiere architectural attraction.

THE LOYAL EDMONTON REGIMENT MUSEUM FOUNDATION Prince of Wales Armouries, 10440-108 Ave., 421-9943. Two galleries dedicated to the history of Edmonton's own Infantry regiment. Pictures, documents and artifacts depicting all aspects of recruiting, training and overseas service. Open TUE-FRI.

MCKAY AVENUE SCHOOL 10425-99 Ave., 422-1970. Archives and Museum located along the river valley on the Heritage Trail. Stroll the Victorian-era park.

MUSEUM HERITAGE MUSEUM St. Albert Place, 5 St. Anne St., St. Albert, 459-1528. THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS: Discover the origins of some of the Christmas traditions, also an exhibit of antique toys and mechanical dolls as well as a number of religious icons.

MUTTART CONSERVATORY 9626-96A St., 496-8755. ANGEL VOICES: A heavenly host dressed in jewelled gossamer gowns with a display of poinsettias. A 9-foot angel centerpiece heralds the joy of the season. Until Jan. 3.

PROVINCIAL MUSEUM OF ALBERTA 12845-102 Ave., 453-9131. •EVER SAT & SUN: Science Circle. For young families. Weekends, 1-4 pm. •EVER SAT: Aboriginal video. •EVER SUN: Galaxy Spotlight: an in-depth look at some of the features of your favourite galleries. •SYNCRUDE CANADA ABORIGINAL PEOPLES GALLERY: Spans 11,000 years and 500 generations, people of the past and present, recordings, film, lights, artifacts and more. •EVERY 1ST SUN OF ea. month: Aboriginal Performers. •EVERY 3RD SUN OF ea. month: Aboriginal artisans. •BUG ROOM: NEW ARRIVALS: Permanent live invertebrate display, new arrivals from Malaysia. •EGGS: A VIRTUAL EXHIBIT: A guide to the bird eggs of Alberta and around the world. Images, text, quizzes and egg humour tell you everything you could want to know about birds and eggs. Created by 11 young Canadians working in museums. www.pma.edmonton.ab.ca. BEARS IN TOWNTOWN (7 pm): Ivan Sundal; Jo-Ann Godfrey, Faan Jennings, Gordon McRae, Geraldine Shields. WED 6 (7 pm): La Boheme: Candyce Neill; Anne LeDressay, Sally Ito, Marcia O'Connor, Thomas Trofimuk. THU 7 (7 pm): La Boheme: Louis Munan; Nancy Mackenzie, Mary T. McDonald, Catherine Patrick, Audrey Shield. Until Jan. 16.

WENDY'S 10458-82 Ave., 433-3197. Meetings Every THU, 7:30-8:30 PM, How to make money on the Internet.

WEST END TOASTMASTERS MEETING 10451-170 St., 411, info, Jerry @ 472-4911.

Every TUE: Personal Growth and development in communication and leadership.

Listening skills, appropriate feedback,

public speaking abilities done in a friendly environment, two hour weekly meetings.

WINSPEAR CENTRE 429-1992, ext. 238.

Tours of the concert hall. Learn about the architecture, acoustics and backstage facilities.

literary

AUDREY'S BOOKS 10702 Jasper Ave., 423-3487. THU 3 (7:30 pm): Buzz Hargrove, author of *Labour of Love, The Fight to Create a More Humane Canada*.

MISTY ON WHYTE 10458B-82 Ave., 433-3512. Every SUN: Open Stage Poetry and Prose Readings.

STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY 7 Sir Winston Churchill Square, 3rd Fl. Boardroom, 496-7000. Every second WED of the month, Talking Book Club.

STROLL OF POETS <http://www.cinet.net.ca/> stroll. THE 12 DAYS OF POETRY: SAT 2 (7 pm): Grounds for Coffee: Joyce Pinckney: Nathan Harms, Barbara Mitchell, Ben Murray, Audrey Whiston. MO 4 (7 pm): Grounds for Coffee: Helen Lavender; Fred Anderson, James Iwasuk, Jon Rissuto, Kevin Steel. TUE 5 (7 pm): Ivan Sundal; Jo-Ann Godfrey, Faan Jennings, Gordon McRae, Geraldine Shields. WED 6 (7 pm): La Boheme: Candyce Neill; Anne LeDressay, Sally Ito, Marcia O'Connor, Thomas Trofimuk. THU 7 (7 pm): La Boheme: Louis Munan; Nancy Mackenzie, Mary T. McDonald, Catherine Patrick, Audrey Shield. Until Jan. 16.

THE WRITE GROUP Block 1912, Old Strathcona, 104 St., 82 Ave., 465-7330. Meeting every second THU, come out and meet with other aspiring writers to talk about issues of interest to writers.

live comedy

CRISTAL LOUNGE 2nd Fl., 10336 Jasper Ave., 421-7861. Every SUN evening: Amateur Comedy Showcase, open mike, pre-screening/auditions. Every WED (8 pm): Laff City.

FIRST NIGHT FESTIVAL Downtown Edmonton, 448-9200.

THU 31: •Edmonton Centre: Wild Nose Clown Theatre.

SIDETRACK CAFE 10333-112 Street, 421-1326. Every SUN: Variety Night hosted by the Atomic Improv Co.

YUK YUKS WEM, 481-9926. Every WEDS: Hypnotist Sebastian Steel.

sports

HOCKEY — OILERS www.edmontonoilers.com, Skyreach. SUN

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LISTINGS

3: Oilers vs Philadelphia. TUE 5: Oilers vs Los Angeles.

HORSE RACING Northlands, 471-7379. Northlands Simulcast racing, 7 days a week.

SOCER EDMONTON DRILLERS Skyreach, 425-KICK. MON 4: Drillers vs Milwaukee. WED 6: Drillers vs Florida.

theatre

DIK MACY AND THE SWING FELLAS Celebrations Dinner Theatre, Neighbourhood Inn, 13103 Fort Rd., 448-9339. Sal Silasoli has big plans for his swing club-big illegal plans that is! Plans that include kidnapping and murder! Meanwhile, Charity Cherub has very important news to share, Tuesday has fallen for the wrong man! New Year's Eve Bash, Dec. 31.

DEE NASTY Varconi Theatre, 10329-83 Ave., 433-3399. The Live Improvised Soap Opera. Every MON night @ 8 PM.

FIRST NIGHT FESTIVAL Downtown Edmonton, 448-9200. THU 31: •Shaw Conference Centre, salons 8 & 9. (6-11 pm), Circle of Fire. •Citadel MacLab Theatre: A Night in Hypnosis with Attila •Edmonton Art Gallery: Illusions by Ruven.

IRON HORSE EATERY & WATERING HOLE 8101-103 St., 438-1907. •Every WED: Classic Comedy with the Atomic Improv Co.

FRIDAY NIGHT FEVER-STILL ALIVE Jubilations Dinner Theatre, W.E.M., 484-2424. Remember the 70's? The swinging singles clubs, dancing the night away, trying to find the perfect "pick-up" line. Well, dust off your disco shoes and pour yourself into those spandex pants and join us for this fun-filled flashback! Until Jan. 17.

INTO THE WOODS Red Deer College, Arts Centre Mainstage, 342-3536. By Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine. Fairy tales are combined into a fast paced and witty musical comedy. Dec. 31.

THE KING AND I The Citadel Theatre, 9828-101A Ave., 425-1820.

A magical, holiday treat for all ages. Anna, an American nanny arrives in Siam, she is astonished by life in the exotic court. Until Jan. 10.

MELODRAMIX Festival Place, Sherwood Park, 449-FEST (3378). Freight Theatre every SUN, 7:30 pm., comedy and an improvised soap opera.

POODLE SKIRTS TO PLATFORM SHOES Mayfield Dinner Theatre, 13615-109 Ave., 483-4051. An evening of music and fun, a nostalgic tribute to the music and the singers of the 50's, 60's and 70's. Until Jan. 31.

RIRE (LESSEQUELLES) La Cite Francophone, 8527-91 St., 497-4395. L'untheatre. Idee originale de Eve-Marie Forcier. Dec. 31.

STREET OF BLOOD Roxy Theatre, 10708-124 St., 453-2440. Ronnie Burkett Theatre of Marionettes presented by Theatre Network. Mrs. Edna Rural pricks her finger and bleeds onto her sewing, she sees the face of Christ in a quilt square. Jan. 7-31.

THEATRESPORTS 10329-83 Ave., 448-0695. The 18th Season of Rapid Fire Theatre, Theatresports. Edmonton's longest running and tastiest improv show. This season will have more thrills-a-minute. Every FRID @ 11 PM (until July 30, 99).

WONDERFUL TOWN Kassa Theatre, Jubilee Auditorium, 420-1757. 497-4395. Musical comedy based on a book by Joseph Fields and Jerome Chodorow with music by Leonard Bernstein. Two sisters travel from Columbus, Ohio to the bright lights of New York City to find fame and fortune. Jan. 8-17.

variety

CITY HALL Sir Winston Churchill Sq., Edmonton. Dec.-March: 7 am-10 pm. Ice-skate on City Hall's outdoor ice rink. •FRI 1: First Day at City Hall, 2-4 pm.

FIRST NIGHT FESTIVAL Downtown Edmonton, 448-9200. THU 31:

•Shaw Conference Centre, salons 8 & 9. (6-11 pm), Circle of Fire. •Citadel MacLab Theatre: A Night in Hypnosis with Attila •Edmonton Art Gallery: Illusions by Ruven.

IRON HORSE EATERY & WATERING HOLE 8101-103 St., 438-1907. •Every WED: Classic Comedy with the Atomic Improv Co.

LESSARD LIBRARY 6104-172 Street, 496-1871. Every WED: Chess Night! all ages, 7 PM. Every TUE: Magic, The Gathering, all ages, 7 PM

LIFE AFTER SUMMER 434-7092. •For Outdoor types: Hiking/biking: explore the trails in and around Edmonton. Skiing/Snowshoeing: No kids, no families. •For Culinary Types: New foods, wines and people. •For Far-out literary types: a book club with a twist.

RUNDLE PARK 113 Ave., 29 St., 496-7275. Skating Rink open to the public. •THU 31 (7:30-11 pm): NEW YEAR'S EVE COUNTDOWN.

SIDETRACK CAFE 10333-112 Street, 421-1326. Every SUN: Variety Night.

SKYREACH CENTRE 451-8000. The Great Moscow Circus on Ice. Jan. 7-10.

VICTORIA OVAL RIVER RD., 116 St., 496-7275. SKATING RINK OPEN TO PUBLIC.

workshops

THE ALEXANDRA WRITERS' CENTRE SOCIETY 10966-132 St., 451-2043. 8 week writing workshops beginning in Jan. 1999: Writing for Women (with Margaret Macpherson), Introductory Creative Writing (with Su Croll), Intermediate Creative Writing, (with Curtis Gillespie), and Poetry (with Su Croll). Contact Su Croll at 451-2043.

EDMONTON ART GALLERY 2 Sir Winston Churchill Square, 422-6223. New adult Drawing class.

FIRST NIGHT FESTIVAL Downtown Edmonton, 448-9200. THU 31: •Festival Rovers: Roadside Workshops by Jacqueline Paul.

GRANT MACEWAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE Jasper Place Campus, 10045-156 St., 497-4301/497-4303. •Introductory Photography & Camera Basics. •Arts Administration. •Audiovisual Communications, Computer Graphics. •Journalism. •Theatre Production. Art history, drawing and Contemporary Art issues. •non-credit art courses.

HARCOURT HOUSE GALLERY 3rd Floor, 10215-112 St., 426-4180. Workshops & classes for adults and kids—sculpture, painting & drawing.

KAMENA GALLERY OF FRAMES 5718-104 St., 944-9497. Watercolour & drawing classes with Willie Wong at our new location, flexible time ample parking.

THE MARKETPLACE ART SCHOOL Westmount Shopping Centre, 474-9351. Individual and group classes in pencil, pen & ink, acrylic, oil, water colour, clay and wood. Call Lorea or drop by.

SNAP PRINT GALLERY 10137-104, back of Latitude 53, 423-1492. SNAP offers courses in a variety of Printmaking techniques.

UPWARD BOUND TOASTMASTERS Heritage Rm, Main Fl., City Hall, 1, Sir Winston Churchill Sq., contact Peggy 488-7271. Every WED (7:30-9:15 PM). Until June, you're invited to improve your listening, thinking, speaking skills. 7:30 PM.

kids stuff

CITY HALL 496-1911. SAT 9, 16, 23, & 30: Free preschool Learn-to skate.

EDMONTON ART GALLERY 2 Sir Winston

Churchill Square, 422-6223. •CHILDREN'S GALLERY: SCULPTURE LOCOMOTION. •Every SUN: Something on Sundays. SUN 3: What a relief. SUN 10: Making art out of flower petals?

FIRST NIGHT FESTIVAL Downtown Ed

mon, 448-1900. THU 31:

•Festival Rovers: Buddy's One Clown Variety Show. Marrymakers & Millennium Bugs. Buttons & Buttons. Tinkles and her Airbrush Machine. •Edmonton Art Gallery: Christy the Clown. •Rice Theatre: Green Fools "The Circus of Your Dreams". •City Hall: Green Fools "Shaggy Beasts". •Eaton Centre: Ron Pearson - Magician. •Cita-De-MacLab Theatre: Paul Hann.

GRANT MACEWAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE City Centre Campus, 497-5300. Dec. 31: New Year's Eve Party for Kids, spend the night and celebrate.

HIGHLANDS LIBRARY 6710-118 Ave., 496-1806. •Every WED, 10:15 am, No Batteries Required (pre-sch/kindergarten).

JASPER PLACE LIBRARY 9010-156 St., 496-1810. •Every WED, 1:15-1:45 (3 yr olds); 2-2:30 pm (4-5 yr. olds); THU: 10:15-10:45 am (3 yr. olds); 11-11:30 am (3-4 yr. olds); Session 1, Dec. 6/7 Feb. 10/11 Pre-school Story time

LONDONDERRY LIBRARY Londonderry Mall, 496-1814. •Pre-school Storytime: until May 12. •Junior Edmonton Stamp Club: SAT 9: Topical or Thematic Stamps.

MUSEUM HERITAGE MUSEUM St. Albert Place, 5 St. Anne St., St. Albert, 459-

1528/459-4404. TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS - AT THE MUSEUM: Discover the origins of some of the Christmas traditions. Exhibit includes antique toys and mechanical dolls and religious icons.

PROFILES GALLERY 110 Grandin Park Plaza, 22 Sir Winston Churchill Ave., St. Albert, 460-4310. Every SAT: (1-4 PM) drop-in and explore themes relating to monthly exhibits. SAT 9: Fun with Frescos.

PROVINCIAL MUSEUM OF ALBERTA 12845, 102 Ave., 453-9131. Every SAT & SUN: Science Circle. For young families. Weekends, 1-4 PM.

RUTHERFORD HOUSE 11153 Saskatchewan Dr., 427-3995, 422-2697. Costumed interpreters recreate daily household activities.

SOUTHGATE LIBRARY Southgate Shopping Centre, 496-1822. SAT 9 & 23: Junior Edmonton Stamp Club.

SPRUCEWOOD LIBRARY 11555-95 Street, 496-7099. •Every THU, 1:30-2 pm (3-5 yrs.), Storytime for Preschool Children. (Jan. 7-May 27).

STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY 7 Sir Winston Churchill Square, 496-7000. •Every FRI, Drop-in Film Program, 10:30 am, (3-5 yrs.) •Every SAT, 11 am, Ukrainian Storytime (Jan. 9-May 29).

STRATHCONA LIBRARY 8331-104 Street, 496-1828. •Every TUE: Pre-School Storytime, 10:30 AM (3-5 yrs.)

VALLEY ZOO 133 Buena Vista Rd. (87 Ave.), 496-6911. Open every day, indoor and outdoor exhibits.

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ARTISTS TO ARTISTS

Naked Truth needs a young artist between the ages of 14-18 for some drawings. Original, must be amateurish and drug free. 479-0778. Leave number on pg. 470-719.

Local Heroes International Screen Festival Feb 20-27 calling for submissions to Local Exposure! a home-video competition that invites the "non-industry" to participate. For info and entry forms call 421-4054 or write www.msi-canada.ca Deadline Feb. 10, 1999

Auditions for Manual Transmissions' A-Team was a Stedhammer will be held Jan 10 & 12. Call 439-2099 to book a time, type name, number, and your project. Experimental physical theatre production in May 1999

The Works - Call to Enter (June 25-July 1, 1999) Ph 426-2122 for more info. Visit the website www.theworks.ca for proposals for indoor/outdoor exhibits/projects before Jan. 22/99

E.L.O.P.E. AUDITIONS "The World Goes Round" (a Kander & Ebb Revue) January 11, 12 & 13, '99. For apply, call the E.L.O.P.E. Hotline # 488-4137

Call for rental submissions Profiles Public Art Gallery. Deadline May 20. For info ph 4...

ARTISTS TO ARTISTS

Free guitar lessons, weekly jam sessions, meet people and form your own band. U of A Music Club Jim 425-4229

Walterdale's 5th Annual Playwrights' Workshop now accepting applications for Playwrights and Actors. No previous experience necessary. 8 wk workshop commencing Jan. 1999. More info Dale 462-4636

Wildlife & Kananaskis Country Photographs required for 1999 Kananaskis Country Poster series. Deadline Jan. 15 Contact Joel Christensen, 403-678-5508

The Kerry Wood Nature Centre, Red Deer looking for wildlife & nature-oriented art "no hand of man". Contact Diana Anderson, 403-322-1126

The New Gallery, Calgary Call for entry ongoing. Contact 403-233-2399

Call for submissions to WOMANSTRENGTH 1999 a multi-disciplinary event, featuring a variety of performances, visual arts, dance, film & video, prose/poetry, visual arts. CWA invites you to explore the theme "Womanstrength" - must be a CWA member. For more info ph 424-0287 Deadline Jan. 8, 1999

ARTIST STUDIOS

Store front studio, 600 square feet. River Valley view, ample natural light, 9634 Jasper Ave 466-0070

Studio space available. Different sizes, access to freight elevator, printmaking and darkroom facilities 1013-104 St. Info pH 423-1492 \$1492

Lead guitarist wanted for eventual gigs, material negotiable but prefer classic rock from '70's to present. Ph 986-2940

MUSICIANS AVAILABLE

Vocalist available for weekends, live gigs progressive, alternative, original, and covers Available weekends Call Andy at 471-5535

Trombone player available for ska, funk, and soul band Parliament, James Brown, Sig Stone Call 440-3116

Vocalist available influence Nevana, Silverchair and any alternative, grunge music. Call Jason at 426-6116

MUSICIANS WANTED

Needed Mature experienced bass player and drummer/percussionist for jazzy original lounge project 439-0568

Keyboardist wanted for original symphonic rock band. Live work and recording. Ph Alan at 462-1815

Female lead vocalist and drummer seek experienced bass and guitar to support vocal driven blues. Infl. include Nina Simone and Etta James. Serious inquiries only please. Call Paula @ 471-9101

Slap bass player needs percussionist, keyboard, break DJ rapper and female vocalist for recording/project. Really funky. Switzer 473-0610 Call after 7 pm

Blue artist seeks vocal instructor willing to exchange for guitar lessons, 903-4339

Guitarist & drummer looking for bass player & singer. Influences are most generations of metal, hardcore and rock. Already have rehearsal space and PA system. If interested call Jam 436-8479

\$100 hr paid rehearsal time to bass player, wanted for death metal/jazz band. Must be young, enthusiastic. Call Chas 431-2848

Neurotic, experienced, bass player & drummer for jazzy original lounge project, 439-0568

Lead guitarist wanted for eventual gigs, material negotiable but prefer classic rock from '70's to present. Ph 986-2940

MUSICIANS WANTED

Serious drummer for 3-piece local rock band, Stash. Has rehearsal space, van, shows booked and CD recorded. Call Chris or Rob 482-1123

Original band seeks heavy, driving, groove oriented bassist. Call 451-3934

Dedicated, heavy, aggressive drummer required for original band. Call 433-2975

Looking for musicians, poets, performers for open stage/coffee house project. Rod 473-0610 Call after 7 pm

Amateur Musicians wanted The Cosmopolitan Music Society. CMS adult beginner Band Program, CMS will teach you how to play an instrument. If you play or sing already or used to, there are adult bands ranging from elementary to advanced and a chorus. Contact CMS at 432-9333 for more info

'ELECTRONICA MUSIC CLUB' free membership Wedo 'Dance, R&B, Industrial, Techno, Ambient, Jungle, R&B, Hip-hop, etc. Call Tom+Leister K 479-3825

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vw/999

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na1210-1231 (dwks)

EDUCATION

EXPERIENCE SPANISH!

The Hispano Bilingual Association offers two programs: Spanish levels, children (3 age levels), social events, Hispano Club,

Saturday mornings and Wednesdays evenings, Strathearn School 8728-93 Avenue. Classes start January 23 & 27. Registration and orientation: Jan. 19 or 29, 7:30-9 p.m. www.planet.eon.net/~ehba

Tel/Fax 472-0532

vw1231-1231 (99)

TRAVEL-teach English:

5day/40 hr. Feb. 24-28 TESOL teacher cert course (or by request), 1,000 of jobs avail. NOW. FREE into pack 438-5704.

cs0813-98-5704 (1yr)(Feb 24)

SMOKING

Nicotine Anonymous

Trying to quit smoking? TRU 2:30 pm, St. Luke Anglican Church, 6424-95 Ave.

SUPPORT GROUPS

At a loss with Alopecia? You're not alone. Let's talk about it, friends and family welcome Michelle 488-8604

vw1221-1217 (2 wks)

VOLUNTEER

Canadian Mental Health Association, offering a Self Advocacy and Leadership Training Program for adults. For more info contact Kirsten @ 414-6300. Next session, Jan. 21, 1999

na1210

Teach Canada to newcomers. Never comes to Canada to help with conversational English training about Edmonton and Canada. No second language required. Call the Host Program @ 424-3547

na1217

Casino volunteers needed for Mar. 29-30, 1999. Please apply by Jan. 5, 1999. Volunteers receive comp. Celebration of Women in the Arts membership. Call 424-0287 for details

na1212

CWA sponsorship available. Call Celebration of Women in the Arts for regulations. Deadline for Dance, Music Theatre Apr. 15. Call 424-0287

na1217

Don't be left out in the cold on New Year's Eve, volunteer for the First Night Festival Interested persons ph Carolynne, 448-9200

na1219

WANT TO GET SOME REALLY IMPORTANT PHONE CALLS! Edmonton's only 24 hr Distress Line answers over 2,500 calls a month from people in need, and we need your help to ensure those calls are answered. For more info call The Support Network Program at 482-0198. Next training starts Jan. 19.

na1019

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Larger Font All or
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Put my ad under
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Extra Lines \$

Extras \$

Sub Total \$

weeks \$

7% GST \$

GRAND TOTAL \$

Contact:

Fax #:

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Lingerie model
23 years old blonde sleek and nice
personality, easy to get along with, my
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lw13267

VW1224-0114/99 (4 wks)

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HEY EDDIE'S TOP 10 THINGS (THAT RHYME) about "Ned, the boy with no head."



1. He never heard a word they said....
2. So they sent him to bed....
3. Without being fed....
4. And then he was bled....
5. They chopped off his head....
6. The blood was deep red....
7. poor misled Ned....
8. He'll never get ahead....
9. Never be wed....
10. 'Cause now he's dead.

Happy New Year!!



astr logic

By ALBERTO D. VILDIGOYA

For the week of Dec. 17 - Dec. 23

Ten predictions for '99

First, let's get the horoscopes out of the way. This week's theme: advertising slogans!

Capricorn: Just Do It—whatever it is. Aquarius: Got Milk? Then drink it already! Pisces: Like A Rock—that's not a good thing for a car or a person. Aries: You Deserve A Break Today—so eat some real food. Taurus: Reach Out And Touch Someone—but don't get caught. Gemini: We Bring Good Things To Life—so get one. A life, that is. Cancer: Something Special In The Air—fine, just keep your feet on the ground. Leo: Finger Lickin' Good—table manners bad. Virgo: Taste of a New Generation—don't forget this generation. Libra: Quality Is Job 1—quantity is still job 2, Scorpio: Don't Squeeze The Charmin—unless the Charmin asks, of course. Sagittarius: Be A Pepper Too. Just don't sneeze.

Now for the predictions:

1. Anal retentives everywhere will suffer brain hemorrhages from constantly pointing out that you don't have to party like it's 1999—it is 1999.

2. The Artist, formerly known as The Artist Formerly Known As Prince—formerly known as Prince—will take his royalty cheque from "Party Like It's 1999" and buy the rights to the Beatles' songs from Michael Jackson.

3. Someone at CFRN will wise up to the fact that channel surfers flip away when they play the same commercials twice in a row.

4. After extensive surgery, the A-Channel's Michelle Boden will finally gain the ability to blink.

5. The U.S. Senate will elect not to remove Bill Clinton from office. Clinton will host an intern sleepover party in celebration.

6. Conrad Black will find Jesus—the cover story in the next issue of the National Post will continue the paper's weeks of tradition in investigative journalism by posing the question: "Why don't born-again Christians have two bellybuttons?"

7. The CBC will find out in its public-opinion-gathering project that nobody actually watches anything but *Absolutely Fabulous*.

8. The government will make an anti-drinking-and-driving commercial that is so graphic, disgusted viewers will stage a bloody coup d'état.

9. Gary McGowan will sell his hair to a wigmaker. He will use the money to buy the rights to Michael Jackson's songs.

10. On December 31, anal retentives everywhere will point out that the millennium actually begins in the year 2001. They will be tortured and eaten by drunken revelers who don't like smartypants.

Alberto D. Vildigoya is Vue Weekly's resident astrologer. We apologize for having misspelled his name to date—Vildigoya is a proud and storied Mexican name, coming from "villa de goyava," or "city of guavas," in a regional Spanish dialect.



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Women Seeking Men

This is Renee. I'm a 5'9" tall, athletic, mentally & financially stable female with blonde hair & blue eyes. I'm seeking an athletic cowboy over 6' tall, for friendship & maybe more. I like the Oilers, the Eskimos, music, dancing, & much more. **Box 8491.**

I'm a 36 yr. old, 5'2" tall, separated female with brown hair & brown eyes. I have two teenage sons. I enjoy fishing, the outdoors, skiing, & working out. I have a great sense of humour. No head games please. I'm looking for a friendship that hopefully will lead to something long term. **Box 7890.**

My name is Tina. I'm a 24 yr. old, 5'10" tall, 165 lb., single female with blonde hair & blue eyes. I enjoy sports, dining, dancing, & having fun. I'm interested in casual dating starting with friendship. If you're interested & you'd like to know more, leave me a message. **Box 8860.**

This is Wendy. I'm a 26 yr. old, 5'5" tall, single mother with brown hair, brown eyes, & glasses. I'm looking for someone to fill that gap. If any of this sounds interesting, give me a call. **Box 7468.**

My name is Cathy. I'm a 29 yr. old, plus sized mother with brown hair & brown eyes. I have two children. I enjoy skiing, skating, long walks, or quiet times on the couch. If this interests you, box me back. **Box 7413.**

I'm a 28 yr. old, 5'4" tall, 120 lb., attractive, outgoing, honest, fun-loving female with dark hair & blue eyes. I'm looking for a friend & partner to share snowmobile trips around the city or to the mountains. I also enjoy downhill skiing, golfing, pets, theatre, comedy clubs, the lake, jet skiing, & water skiing. I'm a non-smoker & casual drinker with no dependents & prefer if you were the same. If you like what you hear, give me a call. **Box 7283.**

I'm in my 40's, a 5'3" tall, 110 lb., spontaneous, sensuous female with long, brown hair & brown eyes. I'd like to meet a 40-59 yr. old, spontaneous, passionate, romantic, energetic male who loves life to the fullest. **Box 7776.**

I'm a tall female with auburn hair & blue eyes. I'm looking for a beautiful, tall male who uses Double D batteries, who must communicate, dance, & come with business oriented features. A great laugh is a plus to go with his smile. Santa wrap this one in a big bow & send him to me. **Box 6136.**

I'm a 5'6" tall, fun, fabulous, full-figured female looking for someone special. I have a variety of interests, skating, snowball fights, & cuddling. I'm looking for a 28-32 yr. old, single male over 5'9" tall. If you think you'd like to get to know me better, box me back. **Box 6099.**

My name is Irene. I'm a 32 yr. old, active female with two sons. I'm looking for a friendship with a man who has an open heart & an open mind. Box me back. **Box 5618.**

I'm a 5'8" tall, very attractive, passionate, romantic, single female with long, blonde hair & brown eyes. I'm a smoker & casual drinker. I love most things in life including the outdoors. I'm friendly, honest, & romantic. I'm looking for a very attractive, 35-43 yr. old, 5'11"-6'3" tall male with all his own hair & similar qualities. **Box 4798.**

My name is Gail. I'm a 29 yr. old, 5'6" tall, medium built, humorous, single, white female with long, brown hair & hazel eyes. I enjoy the outdoors, dancing, movies, & much more. If you're interested, box me. **Box 4436.**

I'm a 36 yr. old, petite female with brown hair & blue eyes. I'm seeking the dependent. I enjoy long walks, antique shops, cultural events, renovating, working out, laughter, & cuddling on the couch. If you're interested & you'd like to know more, box me. **Box 3629.**

My name is Jeannette. I'm a 34 yr. old, 5'3" tall, 135 lb., average looking, single mother of two teenage sons. I'm honest, emotionally & financially stable, & have a strong faith. I enjoy reading, writing, romantic, moonlight walks, & quiet times at home with family & friends. I'm a non-smoker & light social drinker. I'm looking for a 35-45 yr. old male with similar interests. If you'd like to know more about me, box me back. **Box 1709.**

This is Michelle. I'm a single female with long, blonde hair & dark brown eyes. I enjoy music, classic art, pool, bubble baths, & hot oil massages. If you're interested, you know what to do. **Box 1362.**

I'm a 6'2" tall, 200 lb., divorced mother of a 6 yr. old son, with salt & pepper hair & glasses. I'm honest, sincere, & expect the same. I like camping, fishing, sports, dancing, country music, & cuddling. If you're interested, box me back. **Box 9328.**

My name is Linda. I'm a 38 yr. old, big, beautiful, full-figured, curvaceous, intelligent, well-educated, loving, caring, giving female looking for similar things in a partner. I'm looking for an honest, tall man of integrity, who would like to be my friend, lover, & companion. If you think you'd like to get to know her better, give me a call. **Box 7309.**

My name is Chrissie. I'm a 5'6" tall, 145 lb., attractive, well-endowed female with red hair & blue eyes. I'm looking for a nice gentleman to keep me warm. If you're interested, box me back. **Box 6952.**

I'm a 22 yr. old, honest, sincere, goal oriented female with reddish brown hair & green eyes. I have a slightly sarcastic sense of humour. I enjoy movies, music, sports, singing, & having a good time. I'm seeking a 22-30 yr. old, employed, sweet, kind, romantic male who enjoys the simple things in life. **Box 4876.**

I'm a 22 yr. old, honest, sincere, goal oriented female with reddish brown hair & green eyes. I have a slightly sarcastic sense of humour. I enjoy movies, music, sports, singing, & having a good time. I'm seeking a 22-30 yr. old, employed, sweet, kind, romantic male who enjoys the simple things in life. **Box 4876.**

I'm a 22 yr. old, 5'1" tall, 125 lb., single female with long, blonde hair, a great smile, & blue eyes. I'm a smoker, casual drinker, & have no dependents. I'm looking for a 22-28 yr. old, romantic male who enjoys long walks, cuddling, shopping, laughter, & fun times. **Box 4304.**

I'm a 22 yr. old, honest, sincere, goal oriented female with reddish brown hair & green eyes. I have a slightly sarcastic sense of humour. I enjoy movies, music, sports, singing, & having a good time. I'm seeking a 22-30 yr. old, employed, sweet, kind, romantic male who enjoys the simple things in life. **Box 4876.**

I'm a 22 yr. old, honest, sincere, goal oriented female with reddish brown hair & green eyes. I have a slightly sarcastic sense of humour. I enjoy movies, music, sports, singing, & having a good time. I'm seeking a 22-30 yr. old, employed, sweet, kind, romantic male who enjoys the simple things in life. **Box 4876.**

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My name is Carrie. I'm a 26 yr. old, attractive, single female with brown hair & blue eyes. I'm interested in meeting a nice guy who's interested in dating. **Box 2309.**

This is Anita. I'm a 5'10" tall, single mother with blonde hair & blue eyes. I'm studying to become a computer programmer. I'm looking for a tall, easygoing guy who's not into games, to start a relationship that hopefully will lead to something long term. **Box 4522.**

I'm a 5'8" tall, well-groomed, very attractive, slim female with blonde hair & brown eyes. I'm a smoker & casual drinker. I'm looking for an attractive, 35-45 yr. old male over 5'11" tall, who enjoys travelling & romance. Let's talk, cuddling & see where it goes from there. **Box 2498.**

This is Mary Ellen. I'm a 5'6" tall, big, beautiful, classy, sexy female with blonde hair & dark green eyes. I'm a non-smoker, casual drinker, & professionally employed. I love soft, romantic kisses, cuddling, good books, people, & romance. I'm looking for that special guy over 50 yr. old, who's emotionally & financially stable & knows how to express himself. **Box 1703.**

This is Denise. I'm a 26 yr. old, 5'5" tall, 110 lb., single female with fair skin, brown hair, & blue eyes. I'm a non-smoker, casual drinker, & professionally employed. I love soft, romantic kisses, cuddling, good books, people, & romance. I'm looking for that special guy over 50 yr. old, who's emotionally & financially stable & knows how to express himself. **Box 9069.**

This is Eric. I'm a 41 yr. old, 5'8" tall, 170 lb., employed male with brown hair & brown eyes. I'm a smoker & casual drinker. I like fishing, hunting, camping, music, & more. I'm honest, easygoing, & romantic. I'm looking for an honest, humorous lady for a lifetime relationship. You should be a 5'2"-5'8" tall, 110-140 lb. female with blonde or brunet hair & blue or green eyes. **Box 2721.**

This is Jim. I'm a 28 yr. old, 6'2" tall, 190 lb., athletic, employed male with short, brown hair & brown eyes. I've never been married & have no children. I enjoy skiing, camping, fishing, slow pitch, volleyball, most sports, & cuddling on the couch with that special someone. I'm honest, sincere, mild mannered, & a good old country boy with old fashioned values. If you're a young, energetic, honest, sincere, single male with good morals & values, box me back. **Box 4183.**

This is Tim. I'm a 34 yr. old, 5'7" tall, 165 lb., single male in search of a romantic, affectionate, single female with a lot to give. Could that be you? **Box 4279.**

I'm a 29 yr. old, 5'7" tall, stocky, muscular, clean-cut, dark brown hair & hazel eyes. I'm honest & hard-working. I enjoy skiing, cycling, reading, & much more. I'm interested in sharing some quality time with a lovely lady. If this has piqued your interest, box me back. **Box 4183.**

This is Clinton. I'm a 28 yr. old, 6'1" tall, 160 lb. male with light brown hair & green eyes. I love cycling, long walks, camping, hiking, skiing, & writing my own poetry. If you think me back to me. Honesty & discretion is a must. **Box 3938.**

This is Eric. I'm a 42 yr. old, 6'1" tall, slim, good looking, male with a full head of hair, no tattoos, & no pierced parts. I'm a non-smoker, light social drinker, & drug-free. I'm a successful parent with a 17 yr. old son who lives with me & still likes me. I believe in falling in love, staying in love, & industriously building our dreams. I like my monogram hol and not my food. I'm looking for one good normal, younger than I, 5'3" or taller, who is a non-smoker, drug-free, with children. Let's talk, meet, & see if there's enough of a spark to start a hot, crackling fire. **Box 9365.**

I'm an open-minded, adventurous, attractive, professionally employed, university educated, clean-cut, white male with short, brown, hair, brown eyes, & a wide variety of interests. I'm looking for a friend to talk to & do things with. **Box 2716.**

I'm a 38 yr. old, 6'1" tall, good looking, spontaneous, romantic, affectionate, passionate male with long, blond hair, blue eyes, & a moustache. I have a great sense of humor. I like horses, horseback riding, skidooing, & much more. I'm looking for a 28-38 yr. old, slim female with a good sense of humor. **Box 6892.**

I'm a 41 yr. old, attractive, professional male with a lot to offer the right woman. I'm the single father of a 5 yr. old daughter who doesn't live with me. I have a wonderful sense of humor & a big heart with a lot of love. **Box 6411.**

I'm a 34 yr. old, 5'10" tall, 185 lb. physically fit male who enjoys music, dancing, going out, & having fun with life. If you're a lady who thinks this sounds interesting, leave me a message. **Box 5890.**

My name is Sharne. I'm a 22 yr. old, 6'1" tall, 180 lb. male with short, blond hair & blue eyes. I have a variety of interests. **Box 5757.**

I'm a 42 yr. old, 5'10" tall, 170 lb. separated male with brown hair & blue eyes. I'm interested in casual dating. I enjoy movies, dining, pool, slow dancing, & erotic moments. You should be a 39-40 yr. old, slim to medium built female who may smoke & drink casually. **Box 4527.**

I'm a 41 yr. old, 5'10" tall, 170 lb. healthy, self-employed, open-minded, spontaneous male with brown hair & brown eyes. I'm a smoker & casual drinker. I like cooking, travelling, swimming, long walks, children, & romantic dinners. I don't watch sports. I'm looking for a single, petite, shapely, open-minded, honest, employed, 25-42 yr. old female who loves children. If you're interested, box me. **Box 8413.**

I'm a 40 yr. old, 5'7" tall, 170 lb. healthy, self-employed, open-minded, spontaneous male with brown hair & brown eyes. I'm a smoker & casual drinker. I like cooking, travelling, swimming, long walks, children, & romantic dinners. I don't watch sports. I'm looking for a single, petite, shapely, open-minded, honest, employed, 25-42 yr. old female who loves children. If you're interested, box me. **Box 7274.**

I'm a 29 yr. old, 5'10" tall, 175 lb. non-smoking male. I'm a great guy who loves the outdoors & having fun. I'm interested in meeting a 28-32 yr. old, good-looking, physically fit female with a good family background & prettily round figure. If this sounds like you, box me back to me. **Box 6932.**

Approach!

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Men Seeking Women

I'm a 41 yr. old, 5'8" tall, 170 lb., employed male with brown hair & brown eyes. I'm a smoker & casual drinker. I like fishing, hunting, camping, music, & more. I'm honest, easygoing, & romantic. I'm looking for an honest, humorous lady for a lifetime relationship. You should be a 5'2"-5'8" tall, 110-140 lb. female with blonde or brunet hair & blue or green eyes. **Box 2721.**

I'm a 29 yr. old, 5'7" tall, stocky, muscular, clean-cut, dark brown hair & hazel eyes. I'm honest & hard-working. I enjoy skiing, cycling, reading, & much more. I'm interested in sharing some quality time with a lovely lady. If this has piqued your interest, box me back. **Box 4183.**

I'm a 28 yr. old, 6'2" tall, 190 lb., athletic, employed male with short, brown hair & green eyes. I've never been married & have no children. I enjoy skiing, camping, fishing, slow pitch, volleyball, most sports, & cuddling on the couch with that special someone. I'm honest, sincere, mild mannered, & a good old country boy with old fashioned values. If you're a young, energetic, honest, sincere, single male with good morals & values, box me back. **Box 3938.**

I'm an open-minded, adventurous, attractive, professionally employed, university educated, clean-cut, white male with short, brown, hair, brown eyes, & a wide variety of interests. I'm looking for a friend to talk to & do things with. **Box 2716.**

I'm a 38 yr. old, 6'1" tall, slim, good looking, spontaneous, romantic, affectionate, passionate male with long, blond hair, blue eyes, & a moustache. I have a great sense of humor. I like horses, horseback riding, skidooing, & much more. I'm looking for a 28-38 yr. old, slim female with a good sense of humor. **Box 6892.**

I'm a 41 yr. old, attractive, professional male with a lot to offer the right woman. I'm the single father of a 5 yr. old daughter who doesn't live with me. I have a wonderful sense of humor & a big heart with a lot of love. **Box 6411.**

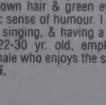
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